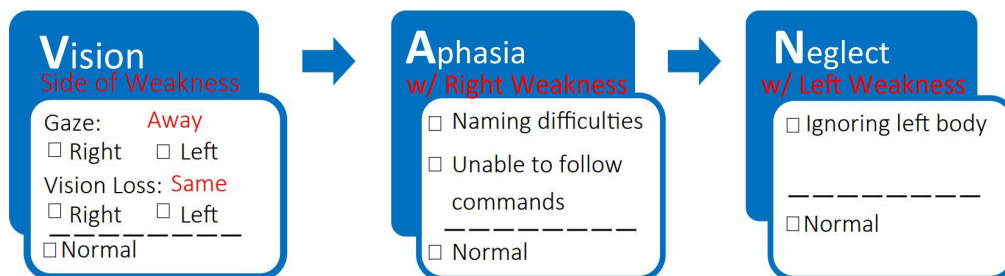




Stroke or Suspected Stroke

1. Follow **General Pre-hospital Care Protocol**.
2. Assess blood glucose level per **Altered Mental Status (3-1)** protocol
 - A. If less than 60 mg/dL, administer glucose per **Altered Mental Status (3-1)** protocol
3. If seizure witnessed or suspected, follow **Seizures (3-4)** protocol.
 - A. Be aware new onset seizure in elderly patients may be sign of stroke
4. Screen for unilateral arm weakness
 - A. If unilateral arm weakness is present, proceed with **VAN** score
 - i. **V** - Assess for visual field deficit (gaze preference OR vision loss)
 - Right
 - Left
 - ii. **A** - Assess for aphasia (unable to follow commands: close eyes, make fist OR difficulty naming common objects: pen, watch)
 - Naming difficulties
 - Unable to follow commands
 - Normal
 - iii. **N** - Assess for neglect (does not recognize left side of body, neglects left side of body when simultaneously touching both arms or both legs)
 - Ignoring left body
 - Normal
 1. If **any V, A, OR N** is positive, patient is "**VAN POSITIVE**"
 2. **Preferentially transport VAN Positive stroke patient to Comprehensive Stroke Center if transport time is less than 60 min**
 3. If **V, A, & N** are *negative*, patient is "**VAN Negative.**" Proceed to Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale



- B. If unilateral weakness is absent, proceed with remainder of Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale (CPSS)

5. CPSS (Any deficit is considered POSITIVE for stroke)
 - A. Facial droop (have patient show teeth or smile)
 - B. Arm drift (have patient close eyes and hold both arms straight out for 10 seconds)
 - C. Abnormal speech (have patient say "the sky is blue in Michigan")
 - D. If positive for stroke per CPSS, transport to the nearest primary stroke center
6. Document time **last seen normal** for patient, if known
7. Minimize scene time, notify destination hospital as soon as possible and begin transport.
8. Initiate vascular access. (DO NOT delay scene time for IV.)
9. Monitor ECG. (DO NOT delay scene time for ECG monitoring.)