

BACKGROUND

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Ministry of Health Services
Fraser Health

B.C. STROKE FACTS

- Every year, there are 6,500 new strokes in B.C.
- Stroke kills 2,300 British Columbians every year, making it the third leading cause of death in B.C.
- For every 100 people who have a stroke:
 - 10 recover completely;
 - 25 recover with minor disabilities;
 - 40 are left with moderate to severe impairment;
 - 10 are severely disabled; and
 - 15 die
- There are 9,000 stroke-related hospital admissions in B.C. every year; the average length of stay is 14 days, with an average cost of \$27,000 per stay.
- Stroke is the most expensive hospital admission.
- Strokes cost the B.C. health-care system an estimated \$327 million in direct costs every year.
- The incidence of strokes will rise as B.C.'s population ages and key risk factors – including obesity and hypertension (high blood pressure) – increase.
- Between 40 and 50 per cent of strokes can be prevented through healthy lifestyle choices and following the prevention and treatment advice of health-care professionals.

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