

Vision After Stroke

What It Means for Your Brain Health



There are around **800,000 stroke survivors** each year in the U.S.

Many stroke survivors suffer vision impairment



vision field loss



double vision



eye movement issues and cranial nerve dysfunction



New Studies

Researchers studied vision in stroke survivors to see if **stroke-related vision impairment increases the risk of dementia** or the speed of its onset.



Key Findings

Stroke-related vision impairment was linked to **2.3× higher** odds of dementia.



Vision field loss was associated with **2.4× higher odds of dementia**.



Stroke-related vision impairment **did not** predict how quickly dementia developed.



More severe strokes influenced both **vision problems** and **cognitive decline**.

Provider Tasks

-  Check vision after a stroke.
-  Use vision-friendly memory tests.
-  Provide personalized care based on vision issues.
-  Keep studying vision, stroke, and brain health.

People Tasks

-  Get regular vision checks (especially in the case of stroke).
-  Prevent stroke (i.e., manage high blood pressure and diabetes, avoid smoking)

Learn about stroke



Hreha, K., Ashner, M. C., Peskoe, S., Downer, B., Reistetter, T., Palta, P., Wruck, L., Gottesman, R. F., Windham, B. G., & Whitson, H. E. (2026). Prevalence of pre-stroke and stroke-related vision impairments and their association with mild cognitive impairment and dementia. *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease: JAD*, 110(1_suppl), S38-S49. <https://bit.ly/45Mf6j>

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