

# Save a Life, Pass it On ...

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#### An Invisible Killer

- Strokes are a major cause of death in our society today
- Strokes are difficult to identify and manifest themselves differently in different people
- Early identification of the symptoms of a stroke often makes the difference between life and death
- Lack of awareness spells "D I S A S T E R"



## Stroke Characteristics

#### Most signs of stroke cause:

- Impairments of cranial nerve and/or peripheral motor nerve functions (usually unilateral)
- Speech impairment (aphasia)
- Other effects like
  - Global confusion
  - Lethargy
  - Blind spots/blindness
- Combinations of the above



# Three Simple Steps Make a Giant Leap

A bystander can infer that a person may be a stroke victim after asking the person to perform three simple tasks:

- > Smile
- Raise both arms
- Speak a simple sentence

If the person has trouble with performing either of these simple tasks, the bystander should immediately call Emergency (9-1-1) and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher

This simple test was presented at last February's American Stroke Association with the recommendation of widespread use to identify a stroke and prevent brain damage



## Pass it on ...

A cardiologist says that if each person passes this message on to ten people,

AT LEAST ONE LIFE CAN BE SAVED!!!