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Watching the Clock

Under new treatment guidelines, people having mild strokes can now be considered for a medication given within several hours to help dissolve a clot. Clot-snaring devices can also now be used up to 24 hours after the start of a stroke in some patients with clots blocking a large vessel in the brain.

0 minutes

Onset of stroke symptoms

Within 3-4 ½ hours

Clot-dissolving drug alteplase for mild and severe strokes

Within 6-24 hours

Mechanical thrombectomy with stent retrievers for large vessel clots

Source: American Heart Association/American Stroke Association