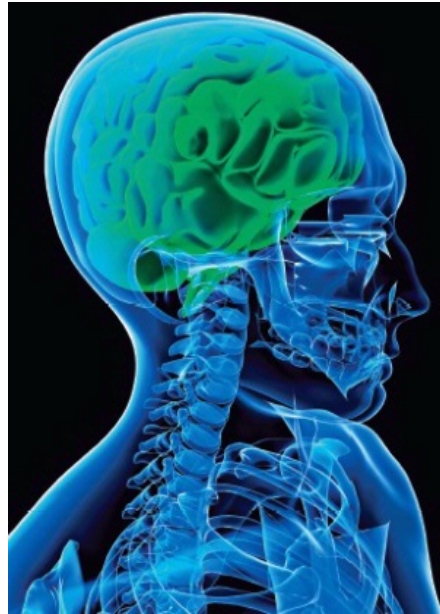


Comprehensive New Stroke Clinic



Eisenhower Medical Center received Joint Commission certification as a Primary Stroke Center in 2008, and remains the only hospital in the Coachella Valley to have met the Commission's rigorous national standards for stroke care. This includes around-the-clock availability of specialists who can administer clot-busting therapies to save patients' brains from the damaging effects of stroke.

Now, the Eisenhower Neuroscience Institute is enhancing stroke care opening a new Eisenhower Stroke Clinic. This comprehensive clinic provides carefully coordinated follow-up care to ensure that stroke patients continue to achieve the best possible outcomes after hospitalization.

"There are specific evidence-based guidelines we adhere to when a stroke patient is hospitalized," explains Eisenhower Neurologist Hamid Salari-Namin, MD. "By consistently applying this proven approach to inpatient stroke care, our patients do very well."

Similarly, there are specific care guidelines after a stroke patient leaves the hospital, including taking statin medications to lower cholesterol, anticoagulation therapy to lower the risk of another blood clot, and if necessary, outpatient rehabilitation and smoking cessation.

"These measures help to modify a patient's risk factors to help prevent another stroke, and improve their recovery and quality of life," Dr. Salari says. "But once a patient leaves the hospital, we don't necessarily know if the patient was compliant with our recommendations or receiving the appropriate follow-up care."

"Many stroke patients need more carefully coordinated care after discharge from the hospital," Dr. Salari explains. "They might require rehabilitation, further diagnostic testing, or they may have other problems that require a neurologist's expertise, but they aren't sure whom to call."

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The new Eisenhower Stroke Clinic, located in the Eisenhower Neuroscience Institute, fills this critical need. Headed by Dr. Salari, the Clinic provides one-stop, streamlined access to all the specialists a stroke patient might require, including neurologists, neurosurgeons, neuroradiologists and neurorehabilitation experts.

"All aspects of outpatient stroke care can now be administered from a single location instead of being at many different places," Dr. Salari says. "It is much more convenient for the patient."

Every stroke patient who is discharged from Eisenhower is seen at the Clinic. The clinical team also provides stroke and vascular neurology consultations for patients referred by other hospitals and physicians. Treatments are tailored to the individual patient's needs, and each patient is carefully monitored over time.

Dr. Salari is confident that the Clinic's coordinated team approach not only will provide more consistent and higher-quality care. "Through the Clinic, we can provide greater continuity of care, follow patients more closely and track how they are doing in meeting established milestones," says Dr. Salari. "This data gives us valuable insights to further refine our clinical practice guidelines and further improve outcomes for our stroke patients."

For more information, call the Eisenhower Stroke Clinic at 760-837-8020.

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