

Every 40 seconds, someone in the United States has a stroke. Knowing the signs of a stroke is critical in saving a life. In an effort to offer awareness, McLeod Health Cheraw wants to empower area residents with this knowledge to be first responders in saving a life.

When a stroke occurs, patients can have multiple symptoms. One of these symptoms is temporary blindness. "Imagine a curtain coming down over the eye," said Dr. Eva Rzucidlo, McLeod Vascular Associates. "The vision is clear with one eye, but one cannot see at all out of the other eye. There are many stroke patients I have cared for who had this warning symptom two or three times before their stroke. These patients didn't realize it was a warning symptom – and ignored it. We want people to be able to recognize the signs and get help."

Weakness or paralysis on one side of the body is another symptom of stroke. This can occur anytime. It can be quickly dismissed as simple numbness due to circulation. But the reality is it is an issue of circulation to the brain, and it is a warning symptom of an impending stroke.

Finally, one can experience disturbances in language. Some people having a stroke will experience one of two kinds of problems with language: Expressive Aphasia or Receptive Aphasia.

- Expressive Aphasia- Everything is comprehended, such as what is seen, and read, but verbal communication can come out in grunts and groans. With Expressive Aphasia the brain interrupts the message between language and speaking it.

- Receptive Aphasia – Everything the patient hears sounds like a foreign language, but they don't understand what is being said, so they try to respond spontaneously, offering random words.

"If you witness someone exhibiting the signs of a stroke, call 9-1-1 immediately," said Dr. Rzucidlo. "Every minute counts for stroke treatment. Brain damage can begin within minutes so it is important to know the symptoms of a stroke and act fast. It is also important to note the time when the symptoms first appear, and report it to the medical personnel. For effective stroke treatment, it is vital that the stroke is recognized and diagnosed within the first three hours of the initial symptom."

McLeod Health Cheraw has advanced vascular services offering convenience to residents of Chesterfield and Marlboro counties, as well as surrounding areas, to receive experienced healthcare. Vascular options at McLeod Health Cheraw include McLeod Vascular Associates located across the street from the hospital at Cheraw Family Medicine where Dr. Rzucidlo sees patients every Monday.

If you believe you may have experienced any of these symptoms, discuss this with your primary care physician, or contact McLeod Vascular Associates at 843-777-7043 to make an appointment. For more information, visit www.mcleodhealth.org.

F.A.S.T.: If you think someone may be having a stroke, act F.A.S.T. and do this simple test:

- **F-FACE:** Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?

- **A-ARMS:** Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

- **S-SPEECH:** Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is their speech slurred or strange?

- **T-TIME:** If you observe any of these signs, call 9-1-1 immediately.

About McLeod Health Cheraw - McLeod Health Cheraw serves the residents of Chesterfield, Marlboro, Anson, Richmond and Scotland Counties. The 59-bed hospital joins six other McLeod Health not-for-profit hospitals providing advanced heart, vascular, orthopedic, surgical, cancer, women's and children's services from the midlands of South Carolina to the coast.

Grace Senior Center Offering Exciting Trip to Atlantic City

Grace Senior Center is sponsoring a 3 day and 2 night trip to Atlantic City, New Jersey, April 12-14. The package includes 2 nights lodging at the Resorts Casino Hotel, with a slot bonus, meal vouchers, a visit to Atlantic City Boardwalk, a souvenir gift, luggage handling, taxes, meal gratuities and motor coach transportation.

The cost of the trip is \$259 per person with double occupancy. Grace Senior Center will begin taking deposits on January 27, and the deadline to pay for the trip is March 17. Call 704-694-6616 to register or for more information concerning the trip.

NC Inspection
Oil Change
Tire Repair
Drinks
Snacks
EAST WADE
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 Across from Police Station on Washington Street in Wadesboro
704-694-2787
Alan Jackson

WE SELL CLEAR KEROSENE
Vouchers Accepted
Many items in our store
MORVEN TRUCK STOP
 Hwy 52 • Morven
 704-475-0862

Chamber of Commerce Lunch & Learn

This is a release from the Chamber of Commerce: Join the Anson County Chamber of Commerce for their next Lunch & Learn Session titled, "Preparing for the Expo: Tips for Making the Most of Your Show."

Please join us on Tuesday, January 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce office located at 107-A East Wade Street in uptown Wadesboro. The deadline for registration is Friday, January 20. You may register by calling 704-694-4181 or email ansonchamber@windstream.net. Seating is limited to 25 people. The event is free to chamber members, \$20 for non-chamber members.



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Intrauterine Devices & Nexplanons

THE ANSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFERS LARC DEVICES

LARC's are devices that are implantable, for years of uninterrupted contraceptive effectiveness.

Anson County Health Department offers 2 kinds of LARC's:

- **NEXPLANON** is a matchstick size, flexible rod that implants under the skin on the upper arm. It provides 3 years of protection.
- **INTRAUTERINE (INSIDE THE UTERUS) DEVICES** are available in three different brands. Paragard for 10 years protection, Mirena for 5 years of protection, and Skyla for 3 years of protection.

OUR MEDICAL PROVIDER IS ABLE TO IMPLANT ANY OF THESE DEVICES

Call 704-694-5188

**Or visit the Anson County Health Department
 110 Ashe Street in Wadesboro**

MCLEOD HEALTH CHERAW PROVIDING THE BEST IN HEALTHCARE.

McLeod Health Cheraw is here to provide you and your family with the highest-quality healthcare available. Our highly-skilled physicians and medical staff provide a wide range of medical services designed to meet the unique needs of the communities we serve.

- Cardiac & Vascular Care
- Cardiac Rehabilitation Program
- Diagnostic Imaging:
 - Mammography
 - CT Scan
- Inpatient Dialysis
- Emergency Department
- Gallbladder Screening
- General Surgery
 - Colonoscopy, Gallbladder, Vein Care, etc.
- Intensive Care
- Laboratory Services
- Nutritional Services & Management
- Occupational Health
- Orthopedic
- Physical Therapy
- Respiratory Therapy
- Sleep Study Program
- Stress Test
- Women's Services (Full OB/GYN)



McLeod Health Cheraw

Most major insurance and Medicaid and Medicare are accepted.

McLeodCheraw.org