

What are the long term outcomes following stroke?

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Despite the recognition of stroke as a major contributor to disability and mortality worldwide, little is known about the long-term outcomes among individuals who survive a stroke. In a research study reported by Charles Wolfe from King's College London and colleagues, the researchers examine outcomes for up to ten years in a cohort of people surviving their first-ever stroke in an inner city area of London, UK.

The researchers show that this cohort of [stroke survivors](#) experience ongoing poor outcomes in the long term, with high levels of disability experienced immediately post stroke but with a sizeable proportion of survivors experiencing moderate to severe disability up to ten years after their first stroke. These outcomes are important for planning services and long-term management strategies for those who experience a stroke.

The authors highlight that their study "not only provides population estimates, to our knowledge for the first time, on the longer term outcomes in a diverse inner city population but highlights that stroke is truly a lifelong condition among survivors with ongoing poor outcomes".

More information: Wolfe CDA, Crichton SL, Heuschmann PU, McKeivitt CJ, Toschke AM, et al. (2011) Estimates of Outcomes Up to Ten Years after Stroke: Analysis from the Prospective South London Stroke Register. PLoS Med 8(5): e1001033.

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