



Brain Aneurysm Basics *that can* **SAVE YOUR LIFE.**

www.bafound.org

Did You Know?

- 1 in 50 people has a brain aneurysm
- About 40% of people who have a brain aneurysm rupture will die

The Brain Aneurysm Foundation is the world's only nonprofit organization solely dedicated to providing critical awareness, education, support and research funding to reduce the incidence of brain aneurysm ruptures.

CFC #74342

What is a brain aneurysm? A brain aneurysm is a weak bulging spot on the wall of a brain artery, very much like a thin balloon or weak spot on an inner tube.

Brain Aneurysm Statistics

- An estimated 6 million people in the United States have an unruptured brain aneurysm, or 1 in 50 people.
- The annual rate of rupture is approximately 8 per 100,000 people or about 30,000 people in the United States suffer a ruptured brain aneurysm. There is a brain aneurysm rupturing every 18 minutes.
- Ruptured brain aneurysms are fatal in about 40% of cases. Of those who survive, about 66% will suffer some permanent deficit.
- There are almost 500,000 deaths worldwide each year caused by brain aneurysms and half the victims are younger than 50.
- Brain aneurysms are most prevalent in people ages 35 - 60, but can occur in children as well. The median age when aneurysmal hemorrhagic stroke occurs is 50 years old and there are typically no warning signs.
- Women, more than men, suffer from brain aneurysms at a ratio of 3:2.
- Ruptured brain aneurysms account for 3 – 5% of all new strokes.

Risk Factors

Risk factors that doctors and researchers believe contribute to the formation of brain aneurysms:

- Smoking
- High blood pressure or hypertension
- Congenital resulting from inborn abnormality in artery wall
- Family history of brain aneurysms
- Age over 40
- Gender, women compared with men have an increased incidence of aneurysms at a ratio of 3:2
- Other disorders: Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, Polycystic Kidney Disease, Marfan's Syndrome, Fibromuscular Dysplasia (FMD)
- Presence of an arteriovenous malformation (AVM)
- Drug use, particularly cocaine
- Infection
- Tumors
- Traumatic head injury

The Brain Aneurysm Foundation

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WARNING SIGNS/SYMPTOMS

UNRUPTURED

- Localized headache
- Dilated pupils
- Blurred or double vision
- Pain above and behind eye
- Weakness and numbness
- Difficulty speaking

RUPTURED

Ruptured brain aneurysms usually result in a subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH), which is defined as bleeding into the subarachnoid space. When blood escapes into the space around the brain, it can cause sudden symptoms.

SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SOME OR ALL OF THESE SYMPTOMS:

- Sudden severe headache, the worst headache of your life
- Loss of consciousness
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Stiff Neck
- Sudden blurred or double vision
- Sudden pain above/behind the eye or difficulty seeing
- Sudden change in mental status/awareness
- Sudden trouble walking or dizziness
- Sudden weakness and numbness
- Sensitivity to light (photophobia)
- Seizure
- Drooping eyelid