Appendix A: Cincinnati Stroke Scale

Interpretation: if any of these 3 signs is abnormal, the probability of a stroke is 72%

### Arm Drift
*The patient closes eyes and extends both arms straight out, with palms up for 10 seconds*
- Normal – both arms move the same or both arms do not move at all (other findings, such as pronator drift, may be helpful)
- Abnormal – one arm does not move or one arm drifts downward

### Facial Droop
*The patient shows teeth or smile*
- Normal – both sides of the face move equally
- Abnormal – one side of the face does not move as well as the other side

### Abnormal Speech
*The patient repeats “you can’t teach an old dog new tricks”*
- Normal – patient uses correct words with no slurring
- Abnormal – patient slurs words, uses the wrong words, or is unable to speak

A similar tool for recognizing stroke warning signs is available for patients from the Heart & Stroke Foundation called Stroke Signs.

Reference: