

Seconds count when you suspect a stroke

now or *never*



After visiting her daughter, Beth, Mary Schmitt got into her car but couldn't put it into gear. She knew something was wrong, and it wasn't the car. Beth became concerned when her mother's car began to rev but she didn't drive away. Beth ran to the car, looked in and called 9-1-1 right away — Mary's face was slack on one side, and she couldn't speak. She was having a stroke.

The Emergency Medical Service (EMS) team recognized Mary's stroke symptoms and took her to Atrium Medical Center, a certified Primary Stroke Center. The EMS team also notified Atrium of Mary's condition, so the stroke team was ready to evaluate her upon arrival to determine the type and extent of her stroke.

Greg Schaublin, MD, staff neurologist at Atrium, was part of the stroke response team called together during Mary's EMS

transport. He says, "People from different departments on the stroke team worked simultaneously to determine the problem. We ordered a head CT scan to be certain the issue was not a hemorrhage."

The scan revealed a blocked vessel. "We decided to use a clot-busting medication called 'tPA' (tissue plasminogen activator) that can sometimes help treat a stroke if given within three hours of symptoms appearing," says Dr. Schaublin.

Elle Bowman, stroke program coordinator at Atrium, assesses and educates patients, researching and reporting on best practices in stroke treatment to continually improve patient care. "tPA can help bring blood flow back to the injured area quickly, which may reduce the injury to the brain and result in less weakness or fewer difficulties for the patient," she explains.

Prior to her stroke, Mary's only hospital visits were to deliver each of her five children. "Babies are happy reasons to be in the hospital," she says. "Even though this wasn't a happy reason, I couldn't have been treated better. Dr. Schaublin has such a great sense of humor—even at a time like that, I sure appreciate a good laugh. I really owe my life to him."

Mary is back to the good life, spending time with her children and watching some of her 12 grandchildren play sports. She helps care for the younger ones, and also helps with her daughter's sewing business. "Staying busy is what keeps me healthy," Mary says. "My mother lived to be 93, and I plan to make it at least that long."

► Find out more about Atrium's stroke program and Primary Stroke Center certification at AtriumMedCenter.org/stroke.

close to home

Mary Schmitt is able to enjoy spending time with her 12 grandchildren because her stroke was treated quickly, avoiding permanent disability.



Photo: Cindy Ratermann



Greg Schaublin, MD

Neurologist at Atrium Medical Center



When an imaging or lab test is needed, it's a relief to know you don't have to travel far. That's why we offer lab and imaging services not only at the hospital, but also at seven additional locations across the region. At Atrium Medical Center, our comprehensive array of imaging procedures includes high-field open MRI, multi-slice CT, ultrasound, PET-CT and X-ray technology.

In our Women's Center we also offer full-field digital mammography (screening and diagnostic), ultrasound, ultrasound-guided breast biopsy, stereotactic breast biopsy, MRI breast procedures and DEXA (bone density) scans.

Our laboratory offers thousands of different diagnostic tests, biopsy readings and screenings. Outpatient specimen collection sites are located just inside the hospital's main entrance and at the Cardiac Care Center in the attached Professional Building.

Seven additional lab and imaging locations (shown on the map below) are available to serve your needs. For more information, to complete a test or to schedule an appointment if needed, call or visit the location nearest you.

H ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER
One Medical Center Drive, Middletown
Scheduling: **(513) 420-5222**

★ ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER IMAGING – GRAND AVENUE
Grand Medical Plaza
4214 Grand Avenue, Middletown
Scheduling: **(513) 727-8860**
Services: high-field open MRI, multi-slice CT, ultrasound, X-ray

▲ ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER IMAGING – FRANKLIN
909 East Second Street, Franklin
(937) 746-7290
No appointment needed
Services: X-ray

◆ ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER IMAGING – LEBANON
1248 Columbus Avenue, Lebanon
Scheduling: **(513) 932-1372**
Services: high-field open MRI, lab, multi-slice CT, ultrasound, X-ray

● ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER LAB AND IMAGING – SPRINGBORO
5 Sycamore Creek Drive, Springboro
(937) 748-3124
No appointment needed
Services: lab, X-ray

□ ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER LAB AND IMAGING – WALDEN PONDS
5971 Golf Club Lane, Hamilton
(513) 785-4304
No appointment needed
Services: lab, X-ray

■ ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER LAB AND IMAGING – TYLERSVILLE
6860 Tylersville Road, Mason
(513) 701-5520
No appointment needed
Services: lab, X-ray

+ ATRIUM MEDICAL CENTER LAB AND MAMMOGRAPHY
Grand Medical Plaza
4216 Grand Avenue, Middletown
Mammography Scheduling:
(513) 420-5222, Option 2
Services: lab, digital mammography.
Drive-up lab draws available at this location.

