

Stroke Nursing Care

- Assess mental status and level of consciousness
- Observe for neurological deficits with frequent and serial neurological assessments
- Measure and monitor pupil size
- Assess breathing
- Monitor vital signs
- Assess higher functions like speech, memory, and cognition
- Provide a quiet environment with the head of the bed elevated
- Elevate bed rails to prevent falls
- Leave the nurse bell button at the side of the bed in case the patient needs to go to the bathroom
- Prevent constipation and straining with stool softeners
- Watch for seizures
- Observe for changes in mood
- Provide deep vein thrombosis (DVT) prophylaxis

Reference: Tadi P, Lui F, Budd LA. Acute Stroke (Nursing) [Updated 2023 Feb 28]. In: StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2023 Jan-. Available from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK568693/