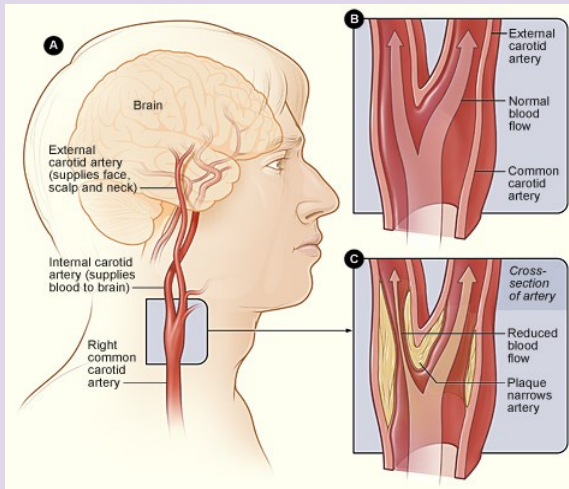


We are a stroke prevention study!



About **80% of strokes** happen because of a blockage in the blood supply to the brain. About 1 in 5 strokes are caused by **carotid artery disease**, which is the narrowing or ‘stenosis’ of the carotid arteries found in the neck. This narrowing is caused by a build-up of fatty deposits called “plaque”.

Our clinical trial, ACST-2, is looking for ways to prevent strokes by studying two specific carotid artery operations: surgical removal of plaque and stenting.

Carotid Endarterectomy (CEA) involves open surgery, often under a general anaesthetic, to unblock the narrowed part of the artery in the neck. **Carotid Artery Stenting (CAS)** involves inserting a tube inside the narrowed part of the artery to hold it open. Both procedures have their benefits, but currently there is not enough information to know which procedure is better.

ACST-2 is including patients with severe carotid stenosis to compare the effectiveness of CEA vs. CAS in preventing subsequent strokes over the next 5 to 10 years. Patients are suitable for inclusion in the ACST-2 study if they:

- have tight carotid artery stenosis that requires a procedure (CEA or CAS)
- have had no symptoms on the narrowed carotid artery for 6 months (asymptomatic)
- are suitable for both CEA and CAS procedures

1 in 5 strokes are caused by narrowing of the carotid artery. Join our Patient Advocacy Group at www.acst-2.org and participate in our online survey.

