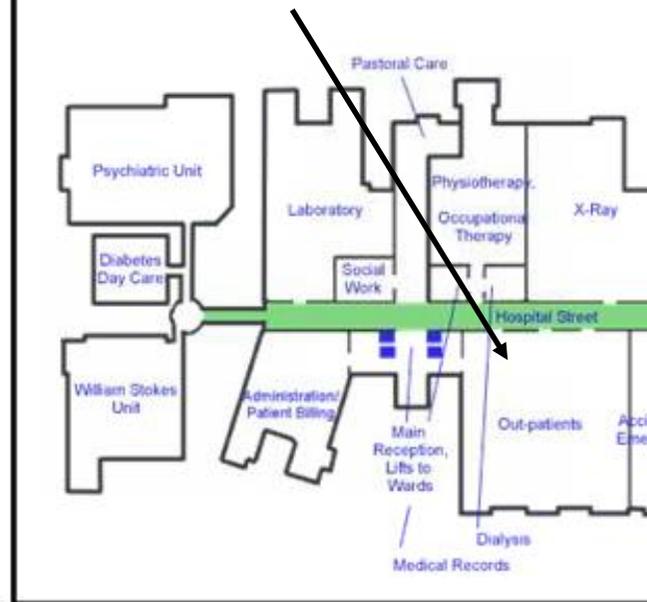




## What to do now?

1. Stop smoking immediately
2. Do not drive, operate heavy machinery or fly until reviewed
3. Return to the Emergency Department **immediately** if you experience further symptoms
4. Expect a phone call from the RASP secretary or Stroke Nurse Specialist to provide you with details of your clinic appointment
4. Attend Stroke Specialist RASP assessment to confirm your TIA diagnosis
5. Follow the advice given by the Stroke Specialist to prevent a further TIA or stroke

### The Rapid Access Stroke Prevention Clinic is located in Out Patients



Tallaght  
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PATIENT  
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# RASP

## Rapid Access Stroke Prevention (RASP) Clinic



## How do I know I have had a TIA?



The specific symptoms of a TIA depend on the area of the brain or eye that is deprived of blood supply and may include:

### Sudden loss or impairment of

- **Sight** – Loss of vision in one eye, or part of the visual field on either side
- **Speech** - Slurring of speech, or inability to express or understand words
- **Swallowing**
- **Strength** – e.g. Weak face, arm or leg
- **Sensation** - e.g. Numb face, arm or leg

TIA's may cause other symptoms that your doctor will recognise

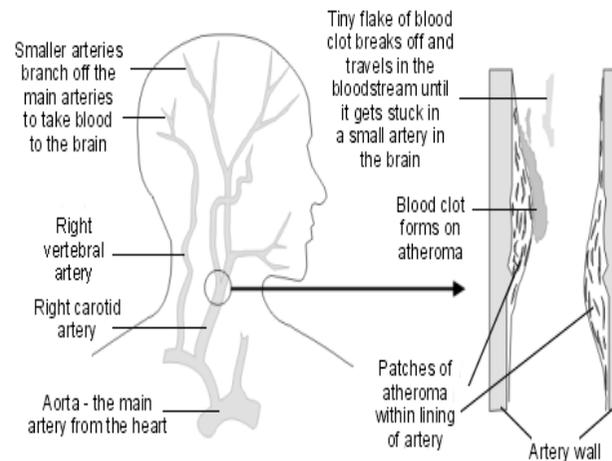
## How serious is a TIA?

A TIA indicates that you have a tendency to form blood clots in your blood vessels that may cause a subsequent stroke. Stroke can be prevented with treatment

## What is the cause of a TIA?

A TIA is usually caused by a tiny blood clot that gets stuck in a small blood vessel (artery) supplying the eye or brain. This part of the eye or brain is temporarily deprived of oxygen, typically for just a few minutes, because the blood clot either breaks up quickly, or nearby blood vessels are able to provide necessary blood flow.

Blood clots may arise in the heart, in the large blood vessels in the neck, or may form in the brain blood vessels themselves.



A transient ischaemic attack (TIA)

## RASP Consultants:

Prof Rónán Collins, Prof Tara Coughlan, Prof Des O'Neill, Dr Dan Ryan, Prof Sean Kennelly (Age-Related Health Care); Prof Dominick McCabe (Neurology)  
**Stroke Nurse Specialist:** Nicola Cogan / Suzanne Greene  
**Clinic Secretarial Staff:** Aoife Downey (ARHC); Dorothy Hughes (Neurology).  
**Tel no:** 01 414 4724 / 01 414 4217

## What is a transient ischaemic attack (TIA)?

A transient ischaemic attack (TIA), sometimes called a 'mini stroke', is a set of symptoms that typically come on **suddenly**, last a short time (**minutes - 24 hours**), and is due to a temporary lack of blood supply to the eye or brain. One experiences the same symptoms with a stroke, but stroke causes symptoms that ultimately last less than 24 hours.

