

# Clot-Busting Stroke Treatment Information

## ALTEPLASE (t-PA) BENEFITS AND RISKS

### BENEFITS

- Alteplase (tPA) is a clot buster drug used to treat ischemic stroke that can lead to some improvement of symptoms in 1 of every 3 patients. Alteplase is the only drug approved for the treatment of ischemic stroke in the United States.



### RISKS

- Alteplase (t-PA) can cause bleeding in the brain in up to 1 of every 15 patients that can make you worse or even cause death.
- It is estimated that of 30 patients treated with alteplase (t-PA), 1-2 may have other complications related to the treatment.



### SUMMARY

- Overall, it has been shown that treatment with intravenous alteplase (t-PA) is 10 times **more likely to help** than to harm patients who are eligible for treatment.
- The chance of surviving and making a reasonable recovery is better in patients treated with alteplase (t-PA), even when the increased risk of bleeding is taken into account.



**Baptist Health**

**STROKE CENTER**

Stroke Center of Excellence