

Fast Facts

Aneurysm

- When part of a blood vessel bulges or balloons outward because of a weakening in the wall of the blood vessel (usually form at forks or branches in arteries because they tend to be weaker)
 - Can occur anywhere in your body
- Exact cause unknown but certain things can increase your risk of developing them, such as aging, smoking, high blood pressure, drug abuse (especially cocaine), heavy alcohol consumption and head injuries

<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Prevention</i>
<p><u>Non-Ruptured</u> -None</p> <p><i>Brain Aneurysm:</i> -It is possible to have symptoms because of the pressure the aneurysm puts on the surrounding tissue (pain above/behind one eye, one pupil becomes dilated, vision changes to one eye and numbness to one side of the face)</p> <p><u>Ruptured</u> <i>Body Aneurysm:</i> -Sudden onset of severe pain in the area -Signs of shock (rapid heartbeat, quick/shallow breathing, cool/clammy skin, low blood pressure, nausea/vomiting, feeling weak, fatigue, confusion, dizziness and little/no urine output)</p> <p><i>Brain Aneurysm:</i> -Sudden/severe headache, nausea/vomiting, stiff neck, blurred/double vision, sensitivity to light, confusion, dropping eyelids and seizures -If a person has a sudden, severe headache but no other symptoms, they might have a leaking aneurysm, which needs immediate treatment because it often turns into a ruptured aneurysm</p>	<p><u>Goal:</u> -<i>Ruptured</i>—stabilize the person by getting the bleeding under control</p> <p>-<i>Non-Ruptured</i>—prevention rupture</p> <p><u>Treatment Options:</u> -Clip the affected artery -Coil the aneurysm -Use flow diverter inside affected artery -All three can be used to treat both types of aneurysm</p> <p><u>Other Considerations:</u> -Manage blood pressure -Don't smoke</p>	<p>-No specific recommendations to preventing formation of an aneurysm</p> <p>-Reduce risk of rupture by controlling blood pressure (eat a healthy diet low in fat and sodium, exercise regularly, don't smoke or use recreational drugs)</p>

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