

A brain injury

at any time, regardless of

lifestyle.

can affect anyone

their age, gender,

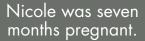
activity level, or



Every Brain Injury is Different

From Everyday Lives: Four Real-Life Accounts of Stroke







Mingjia was lifting weights at the gym.



Leroy was lifting weights at the gym.



Dr. Petersen was at home with his family.

To tour a CNS facility, call 800.922.4994 or visit neuroskills.com. To make a CA referral, fax 661.873.2509. For a TX referral, fax 972.871.5332.



A MOTHER: Nicole Paredes

In June 2017, Nicole felt chest pain, a headache, and was in and out of consciousness. Her speech began to slur, and that's all she could remember. Nicole was seven months into her pregnancy with her third child at the time. Nicole suffered a stroke due to pre-eclampsia and had to deliver her daughter prematurely.



Career: Stay-at-home mom

Lifestyle: Managed household chores, active

churchgoer, no prior warning signs

Life Today: Nicole has regained her speech abilities, learned how to walk again, and manages all household tasks on her own. She homeschools all three of her children.



A STUDENT: Mingjia Wang

At just 20 years old, Mingjia Wang had the shock of his life. One morning he was lifting weights at the gym, but by afternoon, his left arm was numb, and his face began to droop. Mingjia, a college student, had suffered a stroke that caused left-sided weakness and other cognitive deficits. His stroke was the result of a brain AVM, arteriovenous malformation, or tangle of blood vessels.

Age (at the time): 20

Career: College student

Lifestyle: Worked out weekly, walked around campus, active student

Life Today: Mingjia has regained full walking and speaking abilities. He has returned to his college campus and is pursuing a degree in Computer Science.



A BUSINESS OWNER: Leroy McClure Jr.

Leroy McClure Jr. led an active lifestyle, running his own non-profit business and spending time with his eight grandchildren. But on July 30, 2021, Leroy was lifting weights at the gym when his head began to hurt, and he started slurring his words. Leroy suffered hemorrhagic stroke due to a ruptured brain aneurysm.

Age (at the time): 61

Career: Business owner and author

Lifestyle: Very active work life, lifted weights and worked out daily, played basketball

Life Today: Leroy has returned to his community of colleagues, family, and friends. He walks over 15,000 steps a day, works out daily again, and has written a book about his stroke journey.



A DOCTOR: Dr. Michael Petersen

In June 2023, Dr. Petersen had spent a typical day at home with his family. Hours later, he was found in his bedroom. Dr. Petersen suffered a hemorrhagic stroke, causing headaches, right-sided weakness, loss of walking ability and slurred speech.

Age (at the time): 54

Career: Chief Medical Officer, CVS Aetna

Lifestyle: Worked out 3x a week, active with

family, busy work life

Life Today: After 8 months of intensive neurorehabilitation, Dr. Petersen has relearned how to walk independently, strengthened his vision, and successfully returned to work full-time. He is excited to spend time with his children again and resume his work duties.