

**Dear KC-CDC:** My Dad recently had a stroke. Thanks to the information we received from you, we were able to identify the signs of my father's unusual behavior and get him to the hospital in time. After some months, Dad returned home, but his behavior is strange. He has a hard time swallowing and seems to be unaware of one side of his body. Is this an aftereffect of the stroke? **Devoted Daughter**

**Dear Devoted Daughter:** Do talk to your Dad's doctor, but according to the American Stroke Association, your Dad may have a problem with chewing and swallowing food due to the muscles on one or both sides of his mouth becoming weak. Your Dad's loss of awareness is called "neglect." "Neglect" occurs after a stroke. People often lose mobility and/or feeling in an arm or leg and tend to ignore the weaker side or affected side of their bodies. Many of these problems can improve over time. In some patients, the problems will go away completely. For more information, go to <http://www.strokeassociation.org>.