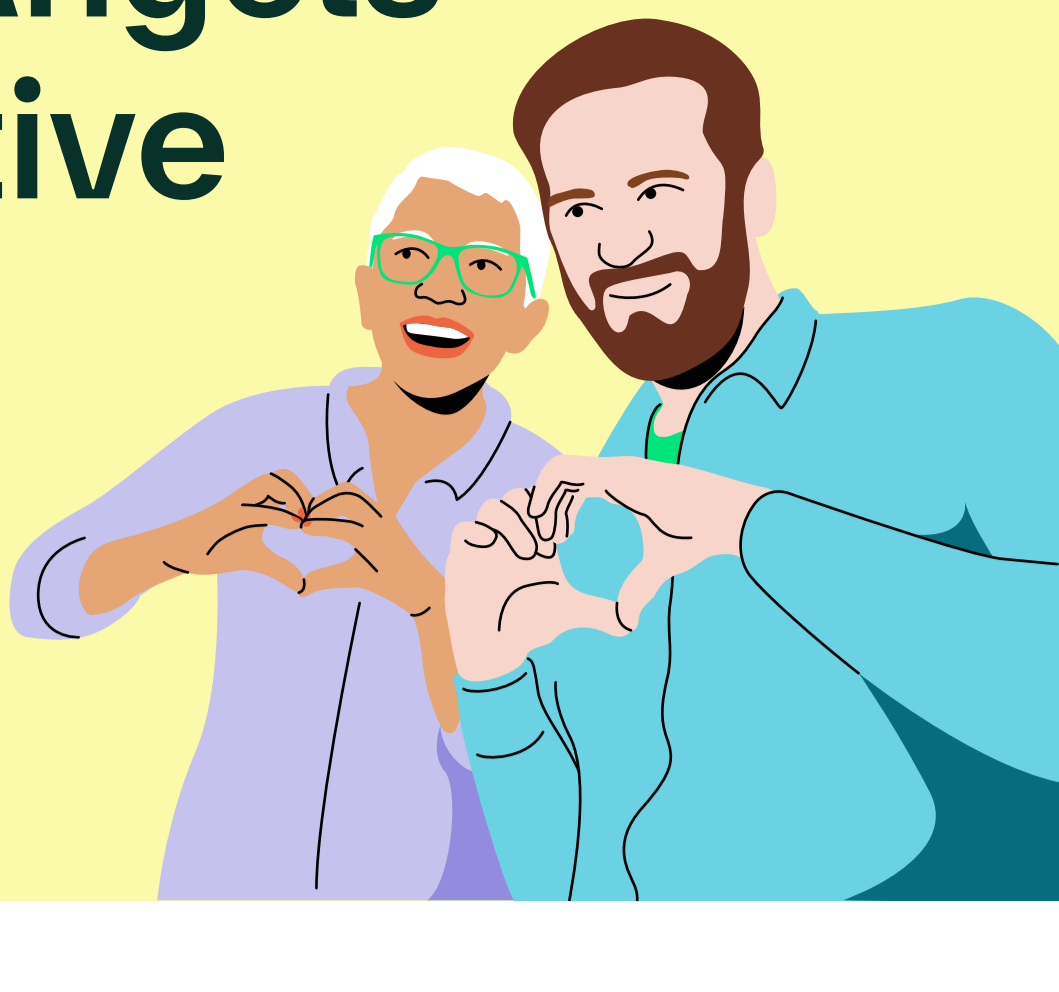


The Angels Initiative



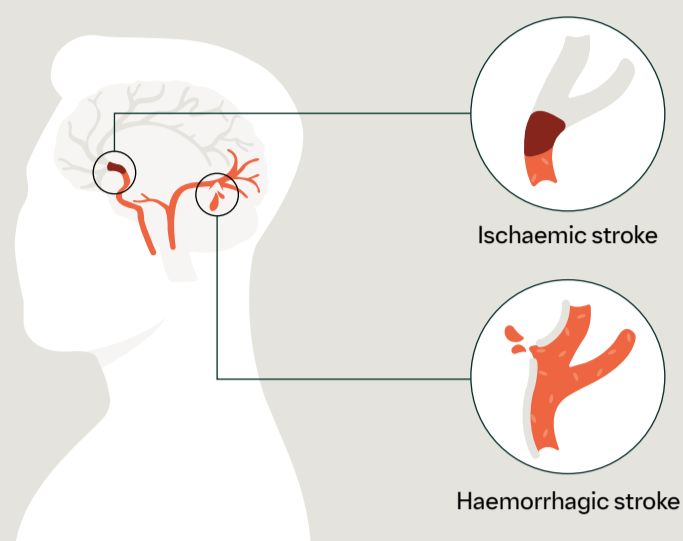
Why was Angels founded?

A Boehringer Ingelheim employee in South Africa had a family member suffer a stroke and saw firsthand how this person did not receive appropriate treatment in the hospital. This personal experience created the determination to drive change. It was a “stroke of luck” that simultaneously a team in Ingelheim, Germany, was collaborating to find a solution to enable better access to healthcare for stroke victims. They joined forces and created the Angels Initiative. Today, these changemakers have already helped to positively impact the health outcome of over **16 million** stroke patients.

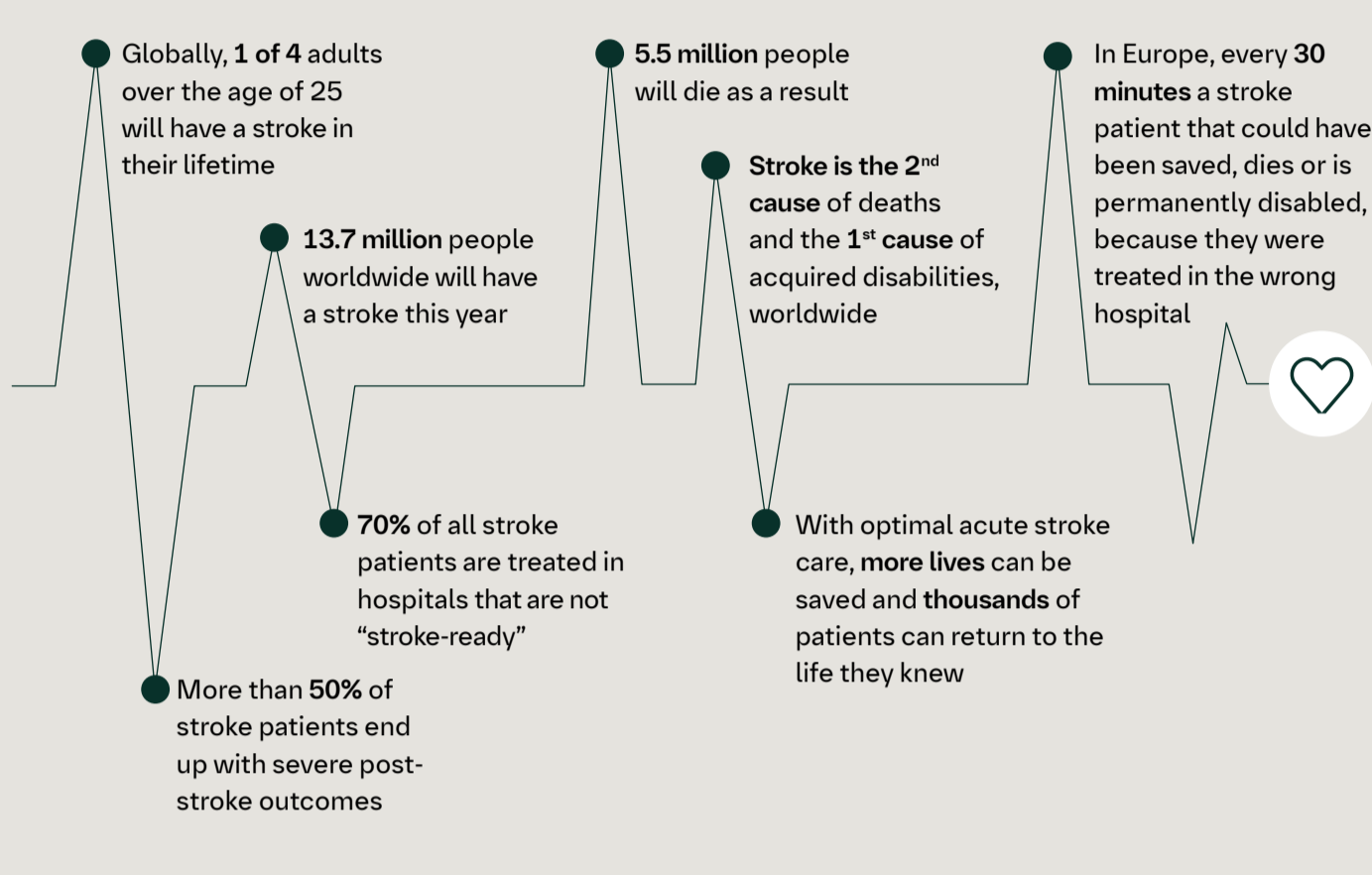
What happens during a stroke?

An interruption or a reduction of a part of the brain's blood supply caused by either (1) a blockage or (2) a rupture of the cerebral blood vessels, can lead to a stroke.

This interruption prevents brain tissue from getting oxygen and nutrients. Brain cells begin to die within minutes. Immediate treatment is critical to reduce significant brain damage and other complications.



Facts about strokes



What do we offer?

Boehringer Ingelheim's Angels Initiative was launched in 2016. Today, it has become a unique healthcare initiative that helps hospitals worldwide become “stroke-ready”, so that patients who have just suffered a stroke can be treated as quickly and effectively as possible and begin their journey to recovery.

Our mission

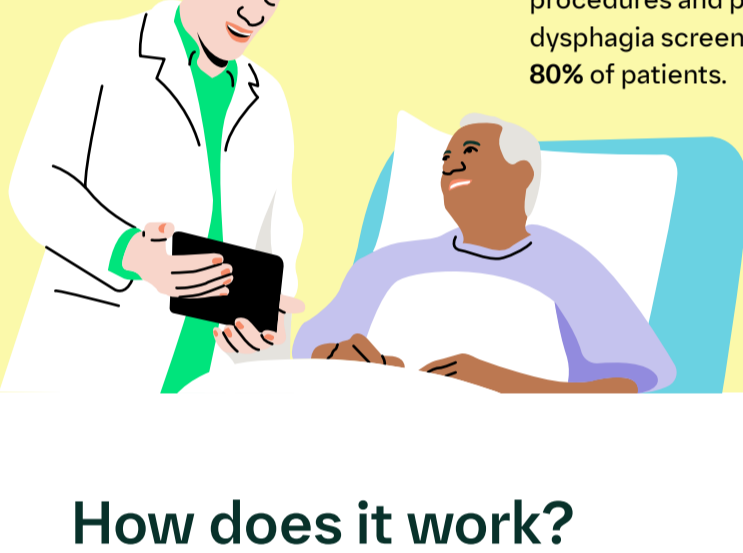
Deliver the improved care and knowledge that substantially increases stroke patients' chances of survival and living a disability-free life.

Our goals

- 1) Increase the number of “stroke-ready hospitals”.
- 2) Optimize treatment quality in all existing stroke-centers, such as treating at least **50%** of patients in less than **60 minutes** after hospital arrival, striving for a target of **15%** in recanalization procedures and performing dysphagia screening in over **80%** of patients.

Our partners

- European Stroke Organisation (ESO)
- World Stroke Organisation (WSO)
- Stroke Alliance for Europe (SAFE)
- Over 50 national stroke societies, companies and health institutions



How does it work?

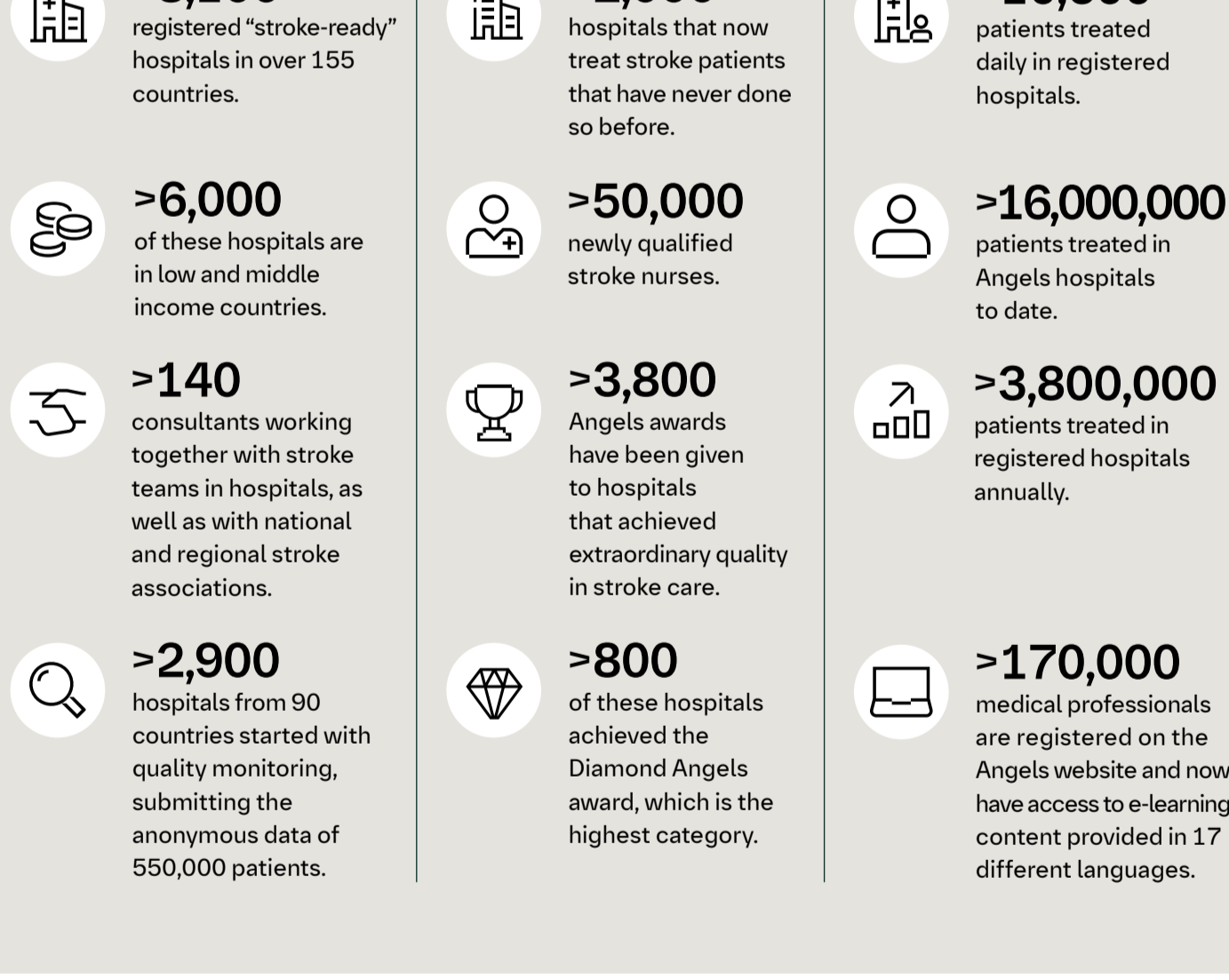
The initiative works with doctors, nurses and ambulance crews to build acute stroke networks, optimize treatment and diagnosis and implement best practices. The Angels Initiative offers multidisciplinary stroke teams around the world with access to Angels consultants, education, standardisation tools, sharing best practices and quality monitoring processes.

Our 5 pillars for success:

- Standardisation:** Every patient is treated according to standardised protocols.
- Angels consultants:** Support hospitals to get stroke-ready and/or improve, for example through simulation trainings.
- Education:** A training platform with a focus on implementing guidelines and first-hand experience of experts.
- Community:** Empowering stroke teams and sharing learnings and best practices.
- Quality monitoring:** Using data to drive change to recognise and celebrate progress.

What have we achieved?

Within a few years, the Angels Initiative has become a movement of more than **60,000** doctors and nurses that work hard every day to save the lives of stroke patients and minimize potential disabilities.



Introducing Angels Cities

Based on the understanding that seamless collaboration saves critical time necessary to mitigate stroke impact, a holistic “value chain” approach was introduced to connect all partners needed within a city or region, rather than focusing on individual aspects. To be recognized as “stroke-ready” and achieve “Angels City” status, the city must meet the following criteria:

- Hospital excellence:** All hospitals within the city must achieve at least a “Gold Award” status in the WSO or ESO Angels awards program.
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) recognition:** The city's EMS companies must receive an EMS Angels Award.
- Community education:** A predefined number of families within the city must have been educated about stroke, through programs such as FAST Heroes.



In 2023, Ribeirao Preto in Brazil became the world's first “Angels City”. The goal is to achieve this status for a total of 100 cities (or regions) by the end of 2027.

FAST Heroes: Our educational initiative for children

FAST Heroes was launched in 2019 in collaboration with the World Stroke Organization and the University of Macedonia. This award-winning educational initiative aims to raise more awareness of stroke symptoms and the urgent need for quick action with school children – who very often spend time alone at home with their grandparents. It leverages children's enthusiasm for learning and encourages them to share this knowledge with their family, particularly their grandparents. Every child's lesson is aimed at becoming a beacon of hope.

