

Mayo Clinic Minute: The difference in brain aneurysms

Each year, nearly [half a million](#) people worldwide die from brain aneurysms. In the U.S., an estimated 6.7 million people have an unruptured brain aneurysm, which means about 1 in 50 people might have one.

A brain aneurysm, also called a cerebral aneurysm, is a bulge or ballooning in a blood vessel in the brain. Dr. Chris Fox, a Mayo Clinic neurosurgeon, says there are two broad categories of aneurysms: ruptured aneurysms, which are neurosurgical emergencies, and unruptured aneurysms, where there is time to establish a treatment plan that may involve multiple options.

Video	Audio
7:20 – 7:28. :08	"For unruptured aneurysms, we have the ability to plan and make a decision on the best treatment upfront in a nonemergent situation."
Illustration :09 Animation – getty brain	But when a brain aneurysm ruptures, Mayo Clinic's Dr. Chris Fox notes that prompt medical attention is required.
6:37 – 6:48 Chris Fox, M.D. Neurosurgery Mayo Clinic	"Typically, when we see a patient with a ruptured aneurysm, we treat it as quickly as possible. That's usually within a matter of hours because there's a risk that the aneurysm can rerupture."
Graphic -Symptoms of a rupture aneurysm: Severe head pain Nausea, vomiting Confusion Loss of consciouness	Symptoms of a ruptured aneurysm can include severe head pain, nausea, vomiting, confusion, and loss of consciousness.
4:35 – 4:40	"The classic presentation for a ruptured aneurysm is a patient has the worst headache of their life."

Shot of women together talking	They are more common in women, and there may be a genetic component because aneurysms can run in families.
1:37 – 1:44 Cigarette burning	"But smoking and hypertension are two of the biggest risk factors for causing an aneurysm or having an aneurysm form."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Joel Streed.