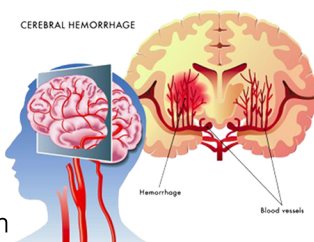


DANGERS OF ANEURYSM RUPTURE

Aneurysms may burst and bleed into the brain. When this happens, complications including hemorrhagic stroke, permanent nerve damage or even death occur. Once it has ruptured, the aneurysm may burst again and rebleed into the brain, resulting in additional aneurysms.

A delayed but serious complication is hydrocephalus, an excessive accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) in the brain which causes the ventricles to widen, putting harmful pressure on the brain.



Another delayed post-rupture complication is called vasospasm. This occurs when other blood vessels in the brain contract and limit blood flow to vital areas of the brain. This reduced blood flow can cause stroke or tissue damage. Once blood enters the brain and it's surrounding space, there is direct damage to the tissue and functions. The amount of injury is proportional to the amount of blood leaked.

This damage is caused by increased pressure and swelling from bleeding directly into the brain tissue, or from local cellular damage to brain tissue from irritation of blood in the space between the brain and the skull.



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