



## NCI Dictionary of Cancer Terms

The NCI Dictionary of Cancer Terms features **8,465** terms related to cancer and medicine.

We offer a widget that you can add to your website to let users look up cancer-related terms. [Get NCI's Dictionary of Cancer Terms Widget.](#)

Starts with     Contains

*Enter keywords or phrases*

Search

Browse: [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#)  
[Y](#) [Z](#) <#>

### CVA

In medicine, a loss of blood flow to part of the brain, which damages brain tissue. CVAs are caused by blood clots and broken blood vessels in the brain. Symptoms include dizziness, numbness, weakness on one side of the body, and problems with talking, writing, or understanding language. The risk of CVA is increased by high blood pressure, older age, smoking, diabetes, high cholesterol, heart disease, atherosclerosis (a buildup of fatty material and plaque inside the coronary arteries), and a family history of CVA. Also called cerebrovascular accident and stroke.