

DÉCOUVREZ L'IMPACT DE VOTRE DON DANS LA VIE DE SAMANTHA

**Un médicament en cours de développement
aurait pu protéger Samantha de certains
dommages lors de son AVC.**

À 23 ans, Samantha a ressenti les premiers symptômes de ce qui s'est avéré être un grave accident ischémique cérébral. Ses chances de retrouver la capacité de parler étaient particulièrement minces.

Bien que l'on ait constaté des améliorations en matière de sensibilisation, de soins et de traitement des accidents vasculaires cérébraux, environ 60 % des personnes ayant subi un AVC au Canada conservent un certain degré de handicap qui affecte une ou plusieurs tâches quotidiennes.

Des recherches cruciales actuellement financées par Coeur+AVC pourraient contribuer à faire progresser les choses. Le Dr Yu Tian Wang, un neuroscientifique à l'Université de la Colombie-Britannique, met actuellement au point un médicament qui pourrait aider à protéger les cellules du cerveau contre les dommages.

«Après mon diagnostic, j'ai dû m'adapter à une nouvelle réalité.»

« Avant mon AVC, je croyais que ça n'arrivait qu'aux personnes plus âgées. Je n'avais aucune idée que ça puisse aussi être mon cas. J'ignorais l'importance de reconnaître les signes précoces et à quel point il faut réagir rapidement. Mon AVC a été un rappel très brutal de tout cela. »

Les maladies cardiaques et les accidents vasculaires cérébraux constituent deux des trois principales causes de décès au Canada. Coeur+AVC s'efforce de réduire ce nombre par la recherche, l'éducation et la promotion de modes de vie sains. — Samantha

DISCOVER THE IMPACT OF YOUR DONATION ON SAMANTHA'S LIFE

**A drug currently in development could have
protected Samantha from some of the
damage during her stroke.**

At 23 years old, Samantha experienced the first symptoms of what turned out to be a severe ischemic stroke. Her chances of recovering the ability to speak were particularly slim. Intense therapy had to start right away.

While we've seen improvement in stroke awareness, care, and treatment, about 60% of people in Canada who have had a stroke live with some degree of disability that impacts one or more daily activities.

Heart & Stroke could help move the dial to crucial research currently being funded. For example, Dr. Yu Tian Wang, a neuroscientist at the University of British Columbia, is developing medication that could help protect brain cells from damage, even when treatment is as delayed as in Samantha's case.

“Before my stroke, I thought only older people could get them. I had no idea that I was even able to have one.”

In the end, it took nearly a month for Samantha to recover almost completely. Now she is 28 and married to Rob, and you would never know she had a stroke.

“Before my stroke, I thought only older people could get them. I had no idea that I was even able to have one. I didn't know the importance of recognizing the signs early and how crucial it is to react quickly. My stroke was a very rude awakening to all this.” Thankfully, still today, she can always count on her family to be by her side. “I have an amazing support system,” Samantha says.

Heart disease and stroke are two of Canada's leading causes of death. Heart and Stroke works to reduce this number through research, education, and promotion of healthy lifestyles.— Samantha

