

When extracranial carotid stenosis produces a [transient ischemic attack](#) or stroke, artery-to-artery embolism is the predominant mechanism. Asymptomatic significant (>50%) carotid stenosis poses special clinical questions in patients scheduled to undergo general surgical or major cardiovascular operations.

Extracranial atherosclerotic disease accounts for up to 15–20% of all [ischemic strokes](#)

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