Science & Technology

Spotting Strokes

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Olajide Williams '04PH. Photo courtesy of Hip Hop Public Health

Here’s a video game that parents will want their kids to play: *Stroke Hero*, which teaches children to recognize when an adult is having a stroke and to summon help.

Stroke Hero was developed by Olajide Williams ’04PH, a neurologist at Columbia University Medical Center and the founding president of Hip Hop Public Health, a nonprofit that uses music, videos, and games to promote healthful living.

Williams collaborated with rapper Artie Green to create *Stroke Hero*, in which players learn to spot signs of trouble, such as slurred speech or temporary blindness — and

then race to find help.

“Empowering every potential witness with the knowledge and skills to make that lifesaving decision if they witness a stroke is critical,” says Williams, who points out that his game is especially appropriate for children being raised by grandparents.

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