



New rapid onset facial nerve change

Incomplete Facial Paralysis (Paresis)

Complete Facial Paralysis

History & Physician Exam by Primary Care
Begin Steroids +/- Antivirals within 72 hours of onset (see dosage recommendations)

Refer to Otolary* if:
 • Recurrent, same side
 • Progresses to complete paralysis
 • Atypical Bell's presentation, (e.g. onset usually hours to days)
 Refer to Head & Neck* if:
 • Parotid or neck mass is present
 Refer to Neurology:
 • ANY other neurologic changes

<2 Weeks

>2 Weeks and <3 Months

>3 Months

Urgent referral to Otolary*

Direct patient to Facial Nerve Clinic web page

Refer to Facial Nerve Clinic

Monitor for:
 1. Any new neuro symptoms
 2. Ocular symptoms

Comprehensive consult:
 • Physical Therapy
 • Procedure Analysis
 • Eye care

>2 Weeks and <3 Months

Persist > 3 Months

Early referral to FNC to evaluate for upper eyelid weight procedure

Monitor for:
 1. Progress to complete paralysis
 2. Any new neuro symptoms
 3. Ocular symptoms

Refer to Facial Nerve Clinic

*Otolary and Head & Neck refer to specialists within the UW Otolaryngology Clinic