New rapid onset facial nerve change

Incomplete Facial Paralysis (Paresis)

History & Physician Exam by Primary Care

Begin Steroids +/- Antivirals within 72 hours of onset (see dosage recommendations)

Refer to Otology* 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 and <3 Months

<2 Weeks

Urgent referral to Otology*

>2 Weeks and <3 Months

Direct patient to Facial Nerve Clinic web page

>3 Months

Refer to Facial Nerve Clinic

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

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

Persist > 3 Months

Refer to Facial Nerve Clinic

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