

Bell's Palsy

Signs or Symptoms

- Acute paralysis or weakness on one side of your face
- Facial droop and difficulty with facial expressions
- Facial stiffness
- Pain behind or in front of your ear
- Headaches
- Loss of taste on the front of your tongue
- Changes in your production of tears and saliva

Description

Bell's palsy is a weakness, or paralysis, of the muscles that control expression on one side of your face. This results from damage to a facial nerve, one of which runs beneath each ear, near your jaw joint, to the muscles on the same side of your face.

Causes

The cause of Bell's palsy is unknown

Treatment

Testing is done to determine if there are any imbalances in the motion of the cranial bones or in the functioning of the muscles where the involved nerve exits. If these are found, very specific corrections are done to remove this stress. The nerve that is involved exits the skull near the jaw joint. Imbalances in the bones of the skull or contractions in the muscles of the jaw can cause excessive pressure on this nerve.