

Causes of facial palsy

Match the clinical scenario with the best fit diagnosis.

An 85-year-old lady presents with left sided weakness of the mouth. The forehead wrinkles on both sides.

UMN Facial Palsy

A 65-year-old man is involved in a RTA. After regaining consciousness, he notices left sided facial weakness. He has difficulty closing his eye, reduced lacrimation in that eye and altered taste sensation on the left side of the tongue.

Facial nerve injury in facial canal

A 32-year-old man presents with a left sided facial palsy. He has also been complaining of left sided otalgia. O/E you notice a vesicular rash on palate and pinna. On further questioning you discover he has also noted hyperacusis & altered taste sensation.

LMN – Ramsey hunt syndrome
(varicella zoster oticus)

A 29-year-old patient underwent right sided ear surgery. Post operatively he develops a right sided facial palsy, hyperacusis and an alteration of taste sensation. Lacrimation was normal.

Facial nerve injury in middle ear

A 16-year-old man develops a right sided facial weakness involving the forehead. Eye closure is very difficult and the eye rolls upwards when attempted. Taste is normal however tear production seems increased.

LMN – Bell's palsy

A 30-year-old man presents to the GP with a left sided facial weakness. When eating food, he complains his eyelids close without warning. The reverse also happens when closing his eyes his mouth twitches.

Facial Nerve synkinesis