



10/5/21 Neuro Morning Report with @CPSolvers



Case Presenter: Gabi Pucci (@gabifpucci) Case Discussants: Sara Pimenta (@SaraPimenta_) and Sakhi Bhansali (@DrSakhii)

CC: Facial palsy
HOPI: 40 F, presented w difficulty moving right side of the face after waking up from her sleep the night before
no weight loss, no fever or other neurological symptoms

Vitals: normal
Exam:
Systemic normal
Neuro
- **Mental Status:** alert, oriented
- **Cranial Nerves:** Facial palsy affecting both upper and lower right side of the face. Palsy still present when laughing. No Palmomental reflex.
- **Motor:** normal
- **Reflexes:** normal
- **Sensory:** normal
- **Cerebellar:** normal
- **Otoscopy:** no rash or vesicles
- **Other:** Tongue showed fissuring. Upper lip edema

Problem Representation: 40 year old woman with a history of hypertension presents with sudden acute unilateral facial palsy, fissuring of tongue and a history of two similar self resolving episodes.

Teaching Points (Vale): #EndNeurophobia
● **Facial weakness:**
- **Location:** Central (upper side of the face works fine-contralateral cortical compensation) vs Peripheral (hemifacial palsy)
- **Time course:** Hyperacute (stroke), acute (infection) subacute-chronic (demyelination, inflammation, malignancy)
◆ In peripheral palsy don't expect ptosis, but lack of ability to close the eye on purpose and absence of blinking. The eye can appear more open than the contralateral side.
● **Recurrent Bell's Palsy** (4-7% of cases): associations with malignant HTN, DM and pregnancy.
- *Unilateral recurrences require evaluation to rule out NM particularly schwannoma.*
- **Melkersson-Rosenthal Syndrome:** recurrent facial swelling, facial paralysis and fissured tongue.
- Part of the orofacial granulomatosis complex-associated with Crohn's dz.
- Starts in adolescence.
- Tx: Steroids, nerve decompression.
◆ Spontaneous smile in central facial palsy can be explained by emotional component innervation, but if the nerve is damaged there is no conduction!
◆ In peripheral facial nerve palsy the palmomental reflex is lost.

PMH:
-HTN
-Cesarean
12 y ago
-2 self resolving episodes of complete facial palsy (In adolescence and 2 y ago)

Meds:
Losartan
50mg/ day

Fam Hx:
-

Soc Hx:
Smoker

Health-Related Behaviors:
-

Allergies:
-

Notable Labs & Imaging:
Hematology:
-
Chemistry:
-

Imaging:
-

Final Dx: Melkersson-Rosenthal Syndrome