



Understanding Facial Paralysis Treatment Options

Overview

Different treatment options can be considered after a facial paralysis diagnosis. The decision on what best suits your case is up to your care team. They are trained to assess and help you find the best fit for you.

Non-Surgical

1 Neuromodulator

Injections can help with the symptoms of facial paralysis, particularly with synkinesis.

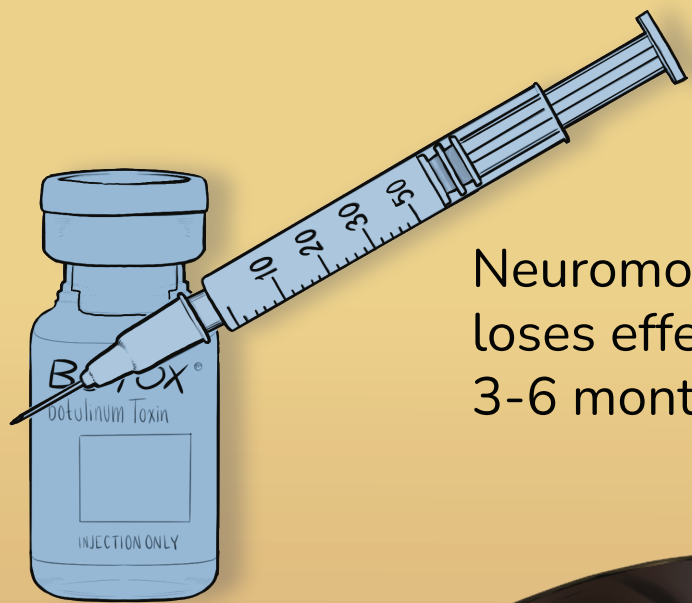
It helps relax the muscles and it is injected into specific muscles to help them.

It can help to:

Improve control over facial muscles

Relieve tight muscles

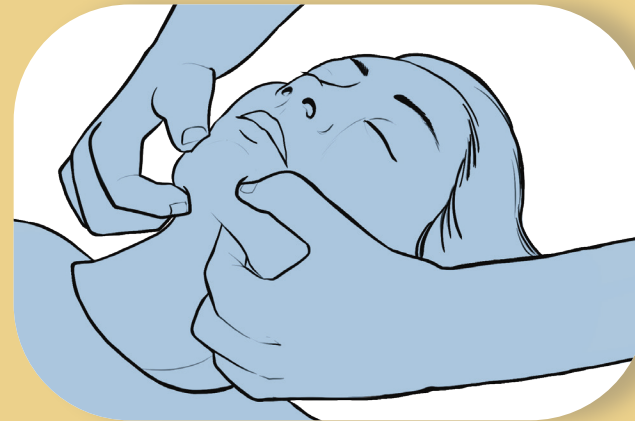
Improve resting symmetry



Neuromodulators lose effect after 3-6 months.

2 Facial physiotherapy

Facial physiotherapy can help you relearn how to move the muscles in your face.

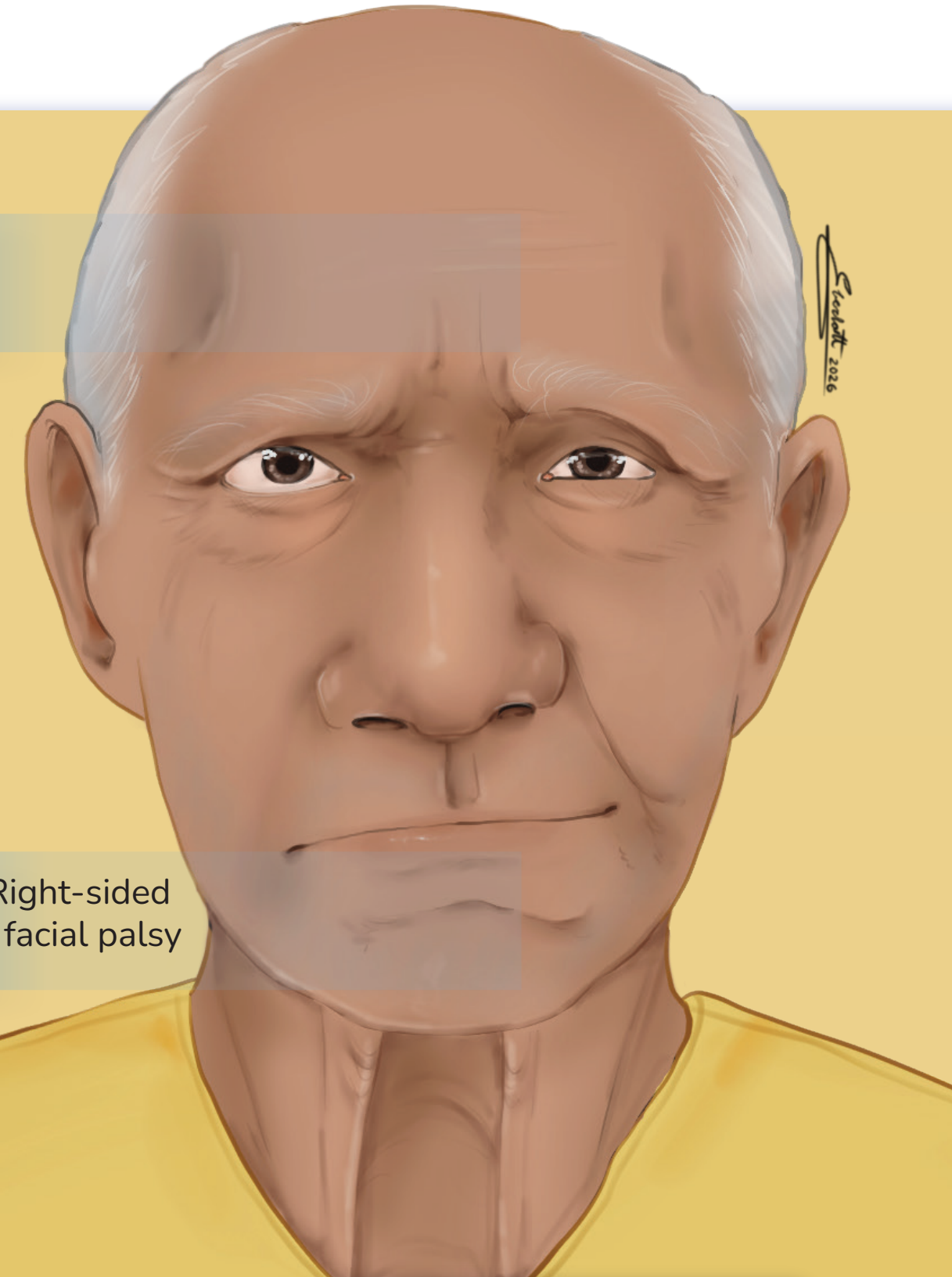


It can also help you strengthen any weak ones.

3 Speech therapy

Speech therapy can help you regain control of your mouth muscles to improve speech, and retrain oral (*mouth*) coordination.

Right-sided facial palsy



Surgical

Surgical treatment can be either static or dynamic. Below are some examples specifically for flaccid paralysis.

1 Static

Goal Improve your natural resting symmetry.

This means when you are not moving your face, it will look more symmetrical.

Examples

Brow lift

Lifting the a drooping eyebrow after muscles loss.

Eyelid surgery

Adding a weight to the upper eyelid to help close the eye.

Static sling

Using tendon or fascia (*connective tissue*) as a sling to help support a drooped face.

2 Dynamic

Goal Restore your ability to move your face.

This means you will regain some facial movement.

Everyone has different results and recovery takes time. Retraining your brain to reconnect with your muscles is not an easy task.

Examples

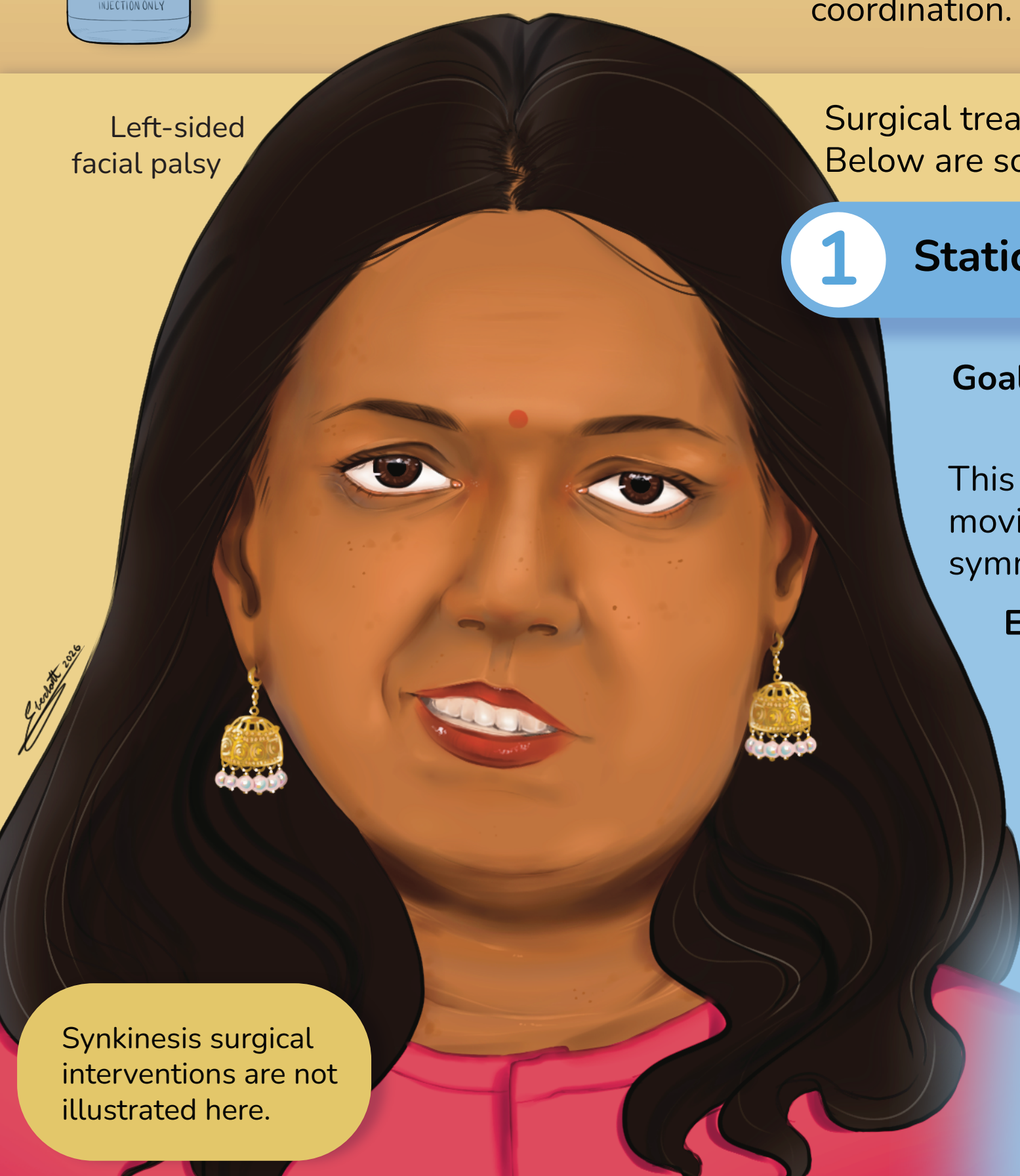
Nerve transfer / graft

Redirecting an existing nerve (*transfer*) or taking a piece of a nerve from elsewhere (*graft*).

Muscle transplant

Taking a muscle from the body and adding it to the face.

Left-sided facial palsy

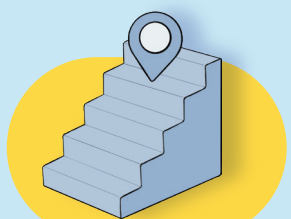


Synkinesis surgical interventions are not illustrated here.

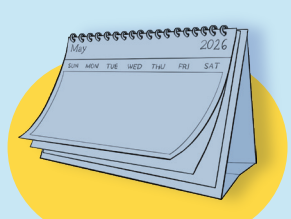
Your care team will discuss with you when deciding what options are best. They will consider things like:



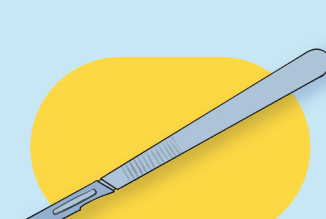
Medical history



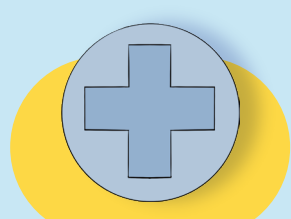
Paralysis stage



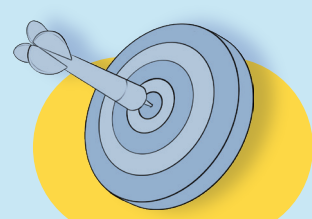
Paralysis length



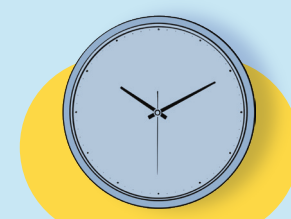
Procedure



Nerve health



Outcome goals



Your age

FacialPalsyPath

Learn more about facial paralysis by scanning the QR code.

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