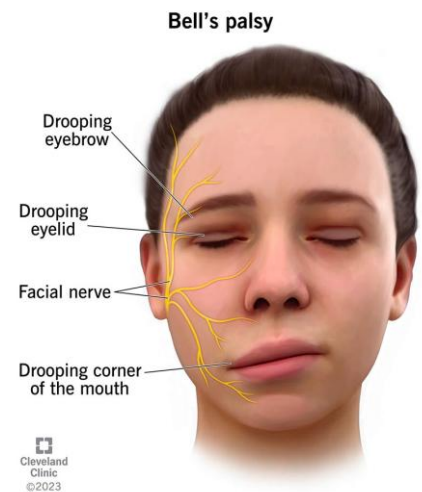


Bell's palsy is a neurological disorder that causes paralysis or weakness on one side of the face. It occurs when one of the nerves that controls muscles in the face becomes injured or stops working properly. Bell's palsy is the most common cause of facial paralysis.

Symptoms of Bell's palsy include sudden weakness or paralysis on one side of the face, a drooping eyebrow and mouth, drooling from one side of the mouth, and difficulty closing one eyelid. Most often these symptoms lead to significant facial distortions. People living with Bell's palsy also may develop facial pain or abnormal sensations, excessive tears in one eye, problems with taste, sensitivity to loud noises, pain around the jaw and behind the ear, and problems eating or drinking. In rare cases, Bell's palsy can affect both sides of the face. Symptoms appear suddenly over a 48- to 72-hour period and generally begin to improve after a few weeks. The symptoms vary from person to person and can be mild to severe. People with Bell's palsy usually recover some or all facial function within a few weeks to six months. Sometimes, the facial weakness may last longer.

Bell's palsy results from a problem in the seventh cranial nerve, also called the facial nerve, which connects the brain to the muscles that control facial expression. The seventh cranial nerve also affects taste and ear sensation.

Bell's palsy can affect anyone of any sex or age, but most often affects people ages 15 to 45. Risk factors for Bell's palsy include pregnancy, preeclampsia, obesity, hypertension, diabetes, and upper respiratory ailments. The exact cause of Bell's palsy is unknown. Some evidence suggests inflammation and swelling of the seventh cranial nerve is involved, but the reason for this swelling is unclear.



Possible triggers of Bell's palsy may include an existing (dormant) viral infection, such as herpes simplex or varicella (chickenpox), impaired immunity due to stress, sleep deprivation, physical trauma, minor illness, autoimmune syndromes, infection of a facial nerve and resulting inflammation brought on by a disorder such as Lyme disease, or damage to the myelin sheath (the fatty covering that insulates nerve fibers).

A viral infection may prompt an autoimmune reaction against a component of the peripheral nerve myelin, leading to the demyelination of cranial nerves, especially the facial nerve. An examination of the serum samples of patients with Bell's palsy shows elevated concentrations of the cytokine's interleukin-1 (IL-1), IL-6, and tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-alpha) compared with control populations, suggesting an activation of cell-mediated effectors.

## Upper and Lower Motor Neuron Lesions

Peripheral facial nerve damage in Bell's palsy can induce changes in the central nervous system (CNS) with the expression of various neuroactive substances.<sup>1</sup> This can result in lower motor neuron (LMN) lesions leading to total paralysis of the facial muscles.

Central facial palsy is also a neurological disorder that causes weakness or paralysis of the facial muscles on one side of the face. This condition usually results from damage to upper motor neurons (UMN) of the facial nerve due to factors such as infection, tumor or stroke.

## Wellness Recommendation

The wellness recommendation for Bell's Palsy includes Platinum, Hepavin, Brown, and LC Balancer. Platinum helps reduce brain inflammation and clear toxic molecules such as chemokines from the brain to reduce irritation to the facial nerve. Exocarpium Citri Grandis (ECG), an herbal ingredient in Platinum, has been traditionally used in China for its anti-inflammatory properties, and research suggests it may help alleviate brain inflammation and improve cognitive function. ECG can inhibit the activation of inflammatory pathways like NF-κB and reduce the production

of pro-inflammatory cytokines (IL-6, IFN- $\gamma$ ).<sup>3</sup> Hepavin helps calm down the liver Kupffer cell to reduce its chemokine production and reduce the triggers of brain inflammation. Radix Angelicae Sinensis, an herbal ingredient in Hepavin, has shown potential in traditional Chinese medicine for treating conditions related to brain inflammation and neurodegeneration, with research suggesting it can modulate neuroinflammation, reduce oxidative stress, and protect against cerebral ischemic injury.<sup>2</sup> Brown and LC Balancer support the liver and kidneys to process waste released from the brain and accelerate the healing of the damaged nerve myelin sheath. Patients can experience symptom improvement in 1 week and 4-6 weeks is recommended for significant improvement.

For patients with active viral infections, Woad, Folia, Linguicin, Blue and Qi Booster are recommended. Woad clears Evil Qi from the Blood and helps clear extracellular viruses including Herpes and Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Folia clears Evil Qi from the brain and helps clear viruses from the neurons. Linguicin clears Evil Qi from the nerves and helps clear viruses within the nerves. Blue expels Wind and Heat from the brain and helps reduce neuron inflammation and over stimulation. Qi Booster enhances Qi and helps enhance immunity to support viral clearance.

For patients with chronic Bell's Palsy with nerve and neuron damage, Ginkgo, Ginkgo Plus, Formula AS, Formula AB and Formula AL are recommended to repair nerve and neuron lesions or damage. Ginkgo helps clear Blood Stasis and open the Meridian. It helps support peripheral nerve damage repair and promote nerve regeneration to resolve symptoms of facial pain, burning, numbness or tingling sensations and muscle weakness and atrophy. Ginkgo Plus helps nurture the blood and enhance meridian Qi. It helps repair nerve damage to resolve peripheral neuropathy and symptoms of numbness, muscle weakness and atrophy. Patients can notice reduction of symptoms within 3 days. 6-8 weeks of treatment is recommended to have significant improvement.

Formula AS nurtures Qi, Blood, and Essence of the Meridian and supports LMN repair in the spinal cord and brain stem to resolve the symptoms of muscle tightness and decreased sensation. Formula AB expels Wind and Phlegm from the Meridian and supports the repairman of LMN in the brain stem including the Branchial / Bulbar Motor Neurons that innervate and control the muscles of the face, head, neck and throat to resolve the symptoms of muscle tightness, difficulty speaking, swallowing and chewing. Formula AL removes Damp toxins from the Meridian, clears Blood Stasis that blocks the Meridian, and nurtures the Yin and Yang. It supports upper motor neuron repair in the brain to resolve symptoms of weakness or paralysis, muscle wasting, and loss of control. If patients have developed muscle atrophy, Flex is also recommended to further support and rebuild muscle mass. Patients can experience symptom improvement in 2 weeks. 3-6 months is required for significant improvement.

#### Protocol Summary

| Bell's Palsy             | Platinum, Hepavin, Brown, LC Balancer                   |
|--------------------------|---|
| + Active Viral Infection | Woad, Folia, Linguicin, Blue, Qi Booster                |
| + Nerve & Neuron Damage  | Ginkgo, Ginkgo Plus, Formula AS, Formula AB, Formula AL |
| + Muscle Atrophy         | Flex  |

#### Selected Case Study

##### Successful Treatment of Stenosis, Bell's Palsy and Depression

*Michael Yuen, LAc/PhD, CA*

A 60 y.o. female patient was diagnosed with spinal stenosis. She had extreme pain and had to use a cane to walk. The patient also had Bell's Palsy with half of her face paralyzed, constant nerve pain and body pain, eye droop and depression. She also had a cyst in the jaw. Since her condition is very severe, Dr. Yuen decide to use Wei Laboratories stenosis protocol with 8 Large WHITEE Patches, 3 LC Balancers and 2 Brown formulas.

After only 3 weeks of the treatment, the patient saw positive results on her stenosis condition. Dr. Yuan commented that it is about a 40% improvement, a huge improvement. The patient can walk much better without the use of a cane and she also lost 10 lbs.

After 6 weeks of treatment, the patient was seeing further improvement on her stenosis condition and wanted to pursue treatment of her face paralysis. Dr. Yuen recommendation was to add Hepavin and Platinum to the treatment which helps clear brain Heat and liver Heat to normalize neuron activities. To help the cyst in the jaw, a small WHITEE Patch was applied.

After 1 week, the nerve pain went away completely. Her mood was much more positive and she looked much younger. Energy levels are great. A lot more mobility in the full body. The treatment really cleared what was going on in the brain. The doctor could see the improved brain activities. Her eye no longer drooped. Her eyes are not completely closing yet and Dr. Yuen is continuing with acupuncture treatment. Both patient and doctor commented that the improvements are remarkable, and treatments are truly productive considering her age, the severity of the condition and the short period of treatment.

As the patient continues the treatment for 3 weeks, she sees further improvement with her depression. She has reduced her medications from 7 medications to 5. There is more alertness in her face. Overall, the treatment results are amazingly positive. She has never experienced anything this great with any other treatment.

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