

Bell's Palsy Symptoms

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[Bell's palsy](#) symptoms can appear all of a sudden. You may notice that you cannot smile on one side of your face. You may have trouble speaking clearly, and you may lose feeling in your face. You may have some facial pain just before or as it becomes weakened or partially paralyzed.

Your [eyes may become dry](#) and you may have [blurry vision](#). One eye may not close completely, and it may feel irritated.

You might not be able to taste food as well as you could before. Also, you could have hearing problems, such as having things sound distorted or unusual.

Tell your primary care doctor or [ophthalmologist](#) if any of your symptoms get worse.

If you have symptoms on **both** sides of your face, you may have something other than Bell's palsy. If your symptoms do not improve in a few weeks, your ophthalmologist may recommend an MRI. An MRI is a scan that provides images of tissue inside the body.

How long do Bell's palsy symptoms last?

For about 8 out of 10 people, symptoms of Bell's palsy start to improve in about 3 weeks. Symptoms should be nearly gone in about 2–3 months.

Some symptoms may remain, such as a small amount of facial paralysis or reduced movement on one side of your face. For about 2 out of 10 people, Bell's palsy symptoms never go away.

Your ophthalmologist can tell you how to relieve uncomfortable eye-related symptoms from Bell's palsy.

Source: <https://www.aao.org/eye-health/diseases/bells-palsy-symptoms>