

Chapter 32

Hemifacial Spasm

Essam A. El-Toukhy and Bryan R. Costin

ABSTRACT

Hemifacial spasm is typically a unilateral progressive disorder of intermittent contraction of one side of the face and can gradually spread to involve the muscles of facial expression and platysma. It is usually caused by irritation of the facial nerve at the brainstem. It can be vascular or tumor in origin. Botulinum toxin is the treatment of choice with excellent results.