

## BELL`S PALSY :NEW TRENDS OF TREATMENT .

EGYPTIAN RHEUMATOLOGY AND REHABILITATION , APRIL, 1998 .

شلل ( بل ) : طرق جديدة للعلاج .

### ABSTRACT :

Idiopathic Bell`s palsy is a weakness or complete paralysis of facial muscles .On the other hand , it is a peripheral facial paralysis believed to be the result of edema and compression of the facial nerve at the meatal foramen inside the temporal canal in the temporal bone .More recently , it was shown that Bell`s palsy may be due to reactivated herpes simplex virus .Therefore , an agent like acyclovir which is effective against this virus seems logic to treat this condition .A study was undertaken to assess and compare the different modalities of treatment of early Bell`s palsy ; such as acupuncture , acyclovir , prednisolone , faradic stimulation , facial exercise , and short wave therapy .It was found that a combination of acupuncture and the common type of treatments is superior to other treatment modalities .Patients responded to acyclovir indicated that infection with herpes simplex virus is the most likely cause of Bell`s palsy .