



To refer a patient,  
call (312) 942-6100.

## Rush University System for Health

# Bell's Palsy Care at RUSH

RUSH's facial plastic and reconstructive surgery team specializes in cases of acute facial paralysis, including Bell's palsy. We are dedicated not only to treating but also to understanding the specific situation of each patient and applying the latest research that can help.

**Thorough Diagnosis, Individualized Treatment.** When diagnosing Bell's palsy, we look for signs of full facial paralysis that has suddenly and rapidly affected the patient. After a thorough confirmation of this diagnosis, we ensure that new and previously diagnosed patients receive the most appropriate treatments for their specific needs as early as possible, putting them on the best pathway to recovery.

Bell's palsy is often most successfully treated with a regimen of high-dose steroids and sometimes antivirals while charting the patient's recovery over time. For patients who experience longer-term facial movement problems, our team is skilled in a specialized application of botulinum toxin, reinnervation surgery, muscle transfer procedures and selective denervation as alternative treatment options. The specialists at Rush are among the small number of providers who perform selective denervation surgery, doing on average two to three of these procedures each month. We are also building on existing methods to create new minimally invasive surgical options that have a shorter recovery time.

Our team is at the forefront of research to improve Bell's palsy care. We track and compile outcomes to provide our patients with an updated packet on previous results that helps them to see what treatments may be most beneficial for their case. We are also involved in studies looking at the social effects of facial paralysis.

**Patient First Scheduling.** Patients with previously diagnosed or longer-term Bell's palsy can often schedule an initial appointment within two weeks. Patients experiencing Bell's palsy symptoms for the first time who require a diagnosis are guaranteed a consultation within 48 hours of contacting our team. We typically schedule check-ins with continual patients every three months for ongoing treatment.

## Our Team



**Peter C. Revenaugh, MD**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Otorhinolaryngology,  
RUSH Medical College  
Head, Section of Facial Plastic and  
Reconstructive Surgery



**Ryan M. Smith, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Otorhinolaryngology,  
RUSH Medical College  
Director, RUSH South Loop  
Otolaryngology



**Michael Eggerstedt, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Otorhinolaryngology,  
RUSH Medical College  
Director, Research, Section of Facial  
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Learn more:  
[rush.edu/bells-palsy](https://rush.edu/bells-palsy)

## Locations

**RUSH University Medical Center**  
1611 W. Harrison St.  
Suite 550  
Chicago, IL 60612

**RUSH Copley Medical Center**  
2040 Ogden Ave.  
Suite 301  
Aurora, IL 60504

**RUSH South Loop**  
1411 S. Michigan Ave.  
4th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60605

**RUSH Oak Brook**  
2011 York Rd.  
2nd Floor  
Oak Brook, IL 60523