



## Facial Pain: A Brief Overview

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Etiologically different conditions, having the common clinical feature of pain in the facial area, denotes the entity known as the "facial pain" [1]. The present article briefly highlights various types of facial pain.

Trigeminal neuralgia, trigeminal autonomic cephalalgias, persistent idiopathic facial pain, temporomandibular joint pain, facial arthromyalgia, headache, maxillary sinusitis, salivary gland disorders, Burning mouth syndrome, giant cell arteritis are some types of facial pain [1-4].

Facial pain can be unilateral or bilateral. Chronic facial can be either episodic or continuous. Based on the pathophysiology, facial pain can be classified into neuropathic pain, inflammatory pain or idiopathic pain. Based on the temporal course, it can be divided into acute pain or chronic pain [1].

Clinician should ask the patient about the onset, duration, location, radiation and severity of the pain. Clinician should record relieving and aggravating factors of pain. In case of facial pain related to any tooth/teeth, radiographs should be advised. In case of salivary gland disorders, ultrasound examination proves an important tool for diagnosis. In some conditions, computed tomography scans and magnetic resonance imaging scans proves beneficial for diagnosis [4].

The proper and accurate management of facial pain is important for relieving patient's pain. The mode of treatment for each type of facial pain varies. Hence, it is very important to diagnose type of the facial pain accurately. Detail case history recording, accurate clinical and radiographic examination helps in diagnosing type of facial pain.

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