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Masked Facies

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Synonyms

Facial bradykinesia; Hypomimia; Poker face

Definition

A decrease in facial animation that may be seen in Parkinson's disease or with parkinsonism. It is felt to be a manifestation of bradykinesia in the face.

Current Knowledge

Facial movements are present, but a decrease in their frequency and amplitude gives the appearance of the patient wearing a mask. Patients may appear to family members as serious or depressed. Patients with masked facies may complain of dry eyes due to decreased eye blinking and of drooling from an associated decrease in the frequency of swallowing.

Cross-References

► [Parkinsonism](#)

References and Readings

Pahwa, R., & Lyons, K. E. (2007). *Handbook of Parkinson's disease* (4th ed.). New York: Informa Healthcare USA.