

Table S1. House-Brackmann grading system and acial paralysis recovery profile scoring

House-Brackmann grading system					
Grade I - Normal	Normal facial function in all areas				
Grade II - Slight Dysfunction	Gross: slight weakness noticeable on close inspection; may have very slight synkinesis At rest: normal symmetry and tone Motion: forehead - moderate to good function; eye - complete closure with minimum effort; mouth - slight asymmetry.				
Grade III - Moderate Dysfunction	Gross: obvious but not disfiguring difference between two sides; noticeable but not severe synkinesis, contracture, and/or hemi-facial spasm. At rest: normal symmetry and tone Motion: forehead - slight to moderate movement; eye - complete closure with effort; mouth - slightly weak with maximum effort.				
Grade IV - Moderate Severe Dysfunction	Gross: obvious weakness and/or disfiguring asymmetry At rest: normal symmetry and tone Motion: forehead - none; eye - incomplete closure; mouth - asymmetric with maximum effort.				
Grade V - Severe Dysfunction	Gross: only barely perceptible motion At rest: asymmetry Motion: forehead - none; eye - incomplete closure; mouth - slight movement				
Grade VI - Total Paralysis	No movement				
Facial paralysis recovery profile					
Site	No. of points assigned to each unit of recovery				
	0	0-25%	25-50%	50-75%	75-100%
Forehead	0	+1	+1	+2	+2
Eye	0	+1	+2	+3	+4
Mouth	0	+1	+2	+3	+4

Table S2. Baseline characteristics in treatment groups

	ST (n=20)	ST+EA (n=24)	Total (n=44)	p value
Age (year), mean±SD (min-max)	39.2±6.6 (24-48)	39.5±6.9 (24-51)	39.3±6.7 (24-51)	0.872 ¹
Sex, n(%)				
Female	8 (40.0)	10 (41.7)	18 (40.9)	0.999 ³
Male	12 (60.0)	14 (58.3)	26 (59.1)	
Severity (HBGS), median (min-max)	3 (3-5)	4 (3-5)	3.5 (3-5)	0.566 ²
Side, n(%)				
Right	9 (45.0)	11 (45.8)	20 (45.5)	
Left	11 (55.0)	13 (54.2)	24 (54.5)	0.999 ³
Symptoms				
Disquesia				
No	13 (65.0)	14 (58.3)	27 (61.4)	0.760 ³
Yes	7 (35.0)	10 (41.7)	17 (38.6)	
Papillitis				
No	10 (50.0)	11 (45.8)	21 (47.7)	0.999 ³
Yes	10 (50.0)	13 (54.2)	23 (52.3)	
Involuntary tears				
No	7 (35.0)	8 (33.3)	15 (34.1)	0.999 ³
Yes	13 (65.0)	16 (66.7)	29 (65.9)	
Hyperacusis				
No	16 (80.0)	18 (75.0)	34 (77.3)	0.734 ⁴
Yes	4 (20.0)	6 (25.0)	10 (22.7)	
Loss of tactile sensation				
No	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	-
Yes	20 (100.0)	24 (100.0)	44 (100.0)	
Tinnitus				
No	17 (85.0)	18 (75.0)	35 (79.5)	0.477 ⁴
Yes	3 (15.0)	6 (25.0)	9 (20.5)	
Post-auricular pain				
No	8 (40.0)	8 (33.3)	16 (36.4)	0.757 ³
Yes	12 (60.0)	16 (66.7)	28 (63.6)	
Comorbidity				
Hypertension				
No	18 (90.0)	21 (87.5)	39 (88.6)	0.999 ⁴
Yes	2 (10.0)	3 (12.5)	5 (11.4)	
Diabetes				
No	17 (85.0)	20 (83.3)	37 (84.1)	0.999 ⁴
Yes	3 (15.0)	4 (16.7)	7 (15.9)	

ST: Standard therapy ; ST-EA: Standard therapy + electro-acupuncture; HBGS: House-Brackmann grading system

¹ Independent T-Test (Bootstrap), ² Mann-Whitney U Test (Monte Carlo), ³ Pearson's Chi-square Test (Monte Carlo, Exact), ⁴ Fisher Exact Test (Monte Carlo)

Table S3. Treatment response in terms of nerve dysfunction, severity of paralysis and functional recovery in the treatment groups

		ST (n=40)	ST+EA (n=48)	Total (n=88)	p value
EMG findings, n(%)					
3rd week	Normal	16 (40.0)	26 (54.2)	42 (47.7)	0.809 ¹
	Mild dysfunction	16 (40.0)	16 (33.3)	32(36.4)	
	Moderate dysfunction	6 (15.0)	4 (8.3)	10 (11.4)	
	Severe dysfunction	2 (5.0)	2 (4.2)	4 (4.5)	
12th week	Normal	10 (25.0)	32 (66.7) ^a	42 (47.7)	0.020¹
	Mild dysfunction	22 (55.0)	14 (29.2) ^a	36 (40.9)	
	Moderate dysfunction	6 (15.0)	2 (4.2)	8 (9.1)	
	Severe dysfunction	2 (5.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (2.3)	
p value		0.533 ²	0.034²		
House-Brackmann grade ≤2, n (%)					
1st week	No	38 (95.0) [*]	44 (91.7) [*]	82 (93.2)	0.999 ³
	Yes	2 (5.0)	4 (8.3)	6 (6.8)	
3rd week	No	22 (55.0)	10 (20.8)	32 (36.4)	0.029³
	Yes	18 (45.0)	38 (79.2) ^a	56 (63.6)	
6th week	No	22 (55.0)	6 (12.5)	28(31.8)	0.004³
	Yes	18 (45.0)	42 (87.5) ^a	60(68.2)	
12th week	No	20 (50.0)	2 (4.2)	22 (25.0)	0.001³
	Yes	20 (50.0)	46 (95.8) ^a	66 (75.0)	
p value		<0.001⁴	<0.001⁴		
FNRP score ≥8, n (%)					
1st week	No	40 (100.0) [*]	46 (95.8) [*]	86 (97.7)	0.999 ³
	Yes	0 (0.0)	2 (4.2)	2(2.3)	
3rd week	No	18 (45.0)	16 (33.3)	34 (38.6)	0.539 ³
	Yes	22 (55.0)	32 (66.7)	54 (61.4)	
6th week	No	22 (55.0)	8 (16.7)	30 (34.1)	0.011³
	Yes	18 (45.0)	40 (83.3) ^a	58 (65.9)	
12th week	No	20 (50.0)	6 (12.5)	26 (29.5)	0.009³
	Yes	20 (50.0)	42 (87.5) ^a	62 (70.5)	
p value		<0.001⁴	<0.001⁴		
Sequelae		2(5.0)	0(0.0)	2(2.3)	-

ST: Standard therapy; ST-EA: Standard therapy + electro-acupuncture

¹Fisher-Freeman-Halton (Monte Carlo), ²Marginal Homogeneity Test (Monte Carlo), ³Fisher Exact Test (Monte Carlo),

⁴Cochran's Q test (Monte Carlo); post hoc Dunn Test, ^a statistical significance compared to ST group, ^{*}p<0.001 compared with 3rd, 6th and 12th week scores in the same group