

**Supplementary Table 1.** The recovery of facial function and characteristics according to HBGS and May's classification (modified HBGS)

May's classification	HB grading system (HBGS)	Characteristics
Complete	HBGS I	Normal function or complete facial function recovery
Fair	HBGS II–III	Slight to moderate facial weakness and synkinesis
Failed	HBGS IV–VI	Severe facial weakness, synkinesis, and contracture and/or spasm

HBGS, House-Brackmann grading system.

**Supplementary Table 2.** Cochrane collaboration's tool for assessing risk of bias

Study	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
Li et al. (2016) [19]	+	–	–	–	?	+	?
Brown (1982) [13]	+	–	–	–	?	+	?

a, random sequence generation; b, allocation concealment; c, blinding of participants and personnel; d, blinding of outcomes assessment; e, incomplete outcome data; f, selective reporting; g, other bias; +, low risk of bias; –, high risk of bias; ?, unclear risk of bias.

**Supplementary Table 3.** Newcastle-Ottawa scale of bias risk for the non-randomized studies

Study	Adequate case definition	Representativeness of cases	Selection of controls	Definition of controls	Comparability	Ascertainment of exposure	Method of ascertainment	Nonresponse rate	Score/10
Kim et al. (2016) [8]	*	*	*	*	**	*	*		8
Yanagihara et al. (2001) [20]	*	*	*	*	**	*	*		8
Gantz et al. (1999) [21]	*	*	*	*	**	*	*		8
May et al. (1985) [22]	*	*	*	*	**	*	*		8