Our faces are extremely unique and much of our communication comes from our facial expressions. One nerve provides the innervation to the muscles of facial expression, so when this nerve is injured, as in the case of Bell’s Palsy, trauma, or tumor, it can have devastating effects on one’s appearance, communication, and self-image. There are very few rehabilitation specialists who work with patients with facial paralysis, and now two of our neurologic clinical specialists, Drs. Erica Pitsch and Heather Bhide, have completed training with the foremost expert in the field, Jackie Diels, OT and have become part of the team at the UCSF Facial Nerve Center.

-- Erica A. Pitsch, PT, MPT, DPT, NCS