

Many [ablative procedures](#) are effective for [hemifacial spasm](#) (HFS) (including sectioning of divisions of the [facial nerve](#)), however, this leaves the patient with some degree of facial paresis. The current procedure of choice for HFS is [microvascular decompression](#) (MVD) wherein the offending [vessel](#) is physically moved off of the nerve, and a [sponge](#) (e.g. [Ivalon®](#), polyvinyl formyl alcohol foam) is interposed as a [cushion](#). Other cushions may not prove to be as satisfactory ([muscle](#) may disappear, and [Teflon](#) felt may thin ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Rhoton AL. Comment on Payner T D and Tew J M: Recurrence of Hemifacial Spasm After Microvascular Decompression. Neurosurgery. 1996; 38

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