

Harlequin Syndrome (Sweating in One Side of the Body)

Bhattacharya SK*

Glocal Hospital, Krishnanagore, West Bengal, India

*Corresponding author: Bhattacharya SK, Glocal Hospital, Krishnanagore, West Bengal, India, Tel: 03212-42339; E-mail: sujitkbhattacharya@yahoo.com

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Introduction

A male patient aged 45 years presented in March 2016 at the Glocal Hospital, Krishnanagore, West Bengal, India, with the complaint of sweating only in the left half of the body, particularly in the face, while the other half does not sweat (**Figure 1**). He had noticed this phenomenon for the last several years. BP was 120/85 mmHg. There were no rashes or itching in the body. Routine examination of blood, urine and stool did not reveal any abnormalities. The thyroid function tests of both the patients were normal. The patient was not diabetic or hypertensive.

Sweating is primarily controlled by the sympathetic nervous system. Sweat on one side of my body (face) only is known as Harlequin syndrome. Treatment is most probably conservative. One usually learns to leave with it; however, routine blood tests for Diabetes, Thyroid function tests and any other relevant tests should be done to make sure that nothing else is going on.



Figure 1: Visible sweats on left half of the face.