



**FIG 8-2** Facial nerve palsy. (From Clark-Gambelunghe MB, Clark D: Sensory development, *Pediatr Clin North Am* 62[2]:367–384, 2015.)

No medical intervention is necessary. The paralysis usually disappears spontaneously in a few days but may take as long as several months.

## Brachial Palsy

Plexus injury results from forces that alter the normal position and relationship of the arm, shoulder, and neck. **Erb palsy (Erb-Duchenne paralysis)** is caused by damage to the upper plexus and usually results from stretching or pulling away of the shoulder from the head, as might occur with shoulder dystocia or with a difficult vertex or breech delivery. Other identified risk factors include an infant with birth weight of more than 4000 g (8.8 pounds), multiparous pregnancy, a vacuum-assisted extraction, prolonged labor, and a previous history of brachial plexus injury ([Lindqvist, Ajne, Cooray, et al, 2014](#); [Hale, Bae, and Waters, 2009](#)). The less common lower plexus palsy, or **Klumpke palsy**, results from severe stretching of the upper extremity while the trunk is relatively less mobile.