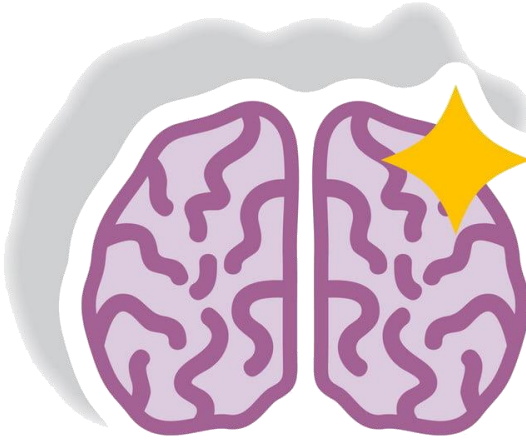




مدينة الملك فهد الطبية  
King Fahad Medical City



## Simple Tips on Approaching Patients with Hemi Neglect

## Did you notice a patient...

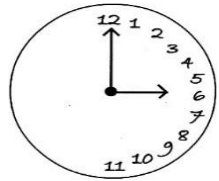
- ❖ leave half of the food he eats on his plate?
- ❖ Forget to put the socks or sleeves on the other side?
- ❖ No response when you speak to them on the affected side?

This is one side neglect manifestation, and it can be burdensome.



## What is Unilateral Neglect?

Lack of response to stimuli and awareness on one side of the body are present in Unilateral (One-sided) neglect.



Left side neglect is commonly seen as the right side.

**The patient may be heedless to one side.**

**These are common examples**

- Eating half of the food on the plate;
- One-sided sight towards an object or things;
- One side grooming or dressing of the body (i.e. only putting one arm through a sleeve); incognizant of the affected limbs.
- One side reading of text on a page;
- When instructed to draw an object, it illustrates half of the object





Note: symptoms of neglect may vary from person to person

**Here are some tips to get started:**

**Approach the neglected side**

- Position comfortable chair beside the bed on the neglected side.
- This motivates the patient to follow your direction as you speak.

**Approach the patient on the neglected side.**

- Touching and holding the patient's hand to help increase awareness of that side.

- Hold the neglected hand or limb to Improve awareness
- If patient rigors turning their head in your direction, gently guide his/her head by holding the chin and slowly assist in turning it towards you (sufficient distance to meet each other's eyes).



## Place the nightstand/Bedside table on the neglected side.

- Placing necessities like bottled water, remote, phone and tissue on the neglected side encourage movement.



**Caution:** Call bell should be placed in the unaffected side to easily reach it whenever needed



## The neglected hand should be included during daily tasks.

- There is still a noticeable situation wherein The neglected patient is unaware of objects on one side even if the overall condition improves.
- Avoid confusing questions like “What did you forget?” or “Look to your left” since its unhelpful. Instead, say delicate reminders such as “Here is your fork” and guide their hand.
- An intriguing occurrence happens when you grab the patient’s hand, their head automatically turns in that direction followed by their eyes.
- The combination of the sense of hearing and touch is very important such as saying ‘let’s get your fork” while guiding their hands towards the fork.

Say the things that the patient wants to reach or grab while gently guiding the neglected hand towards it.



## **Encourage participation of the affected side during the activity of daily living**

- Gently hold the patient's hand while assisting it to perform the task such as using the utensils, washing the face and scrubbing the body, squeezing the toothpaste and hair brushing.



## Use hand over neglected hand to guide in doing a task

- Perform the activity of daily living in front of a mirror.



Mirror will help to provide visual feedback that can aid midline orientation.

- This will provide visual feedback and midline orientation that draw attention to participate in the affected side in task accomplishment.

## Improve awareness

Everyone should be helpful from family members, caregivers, friends to nurse for whatever reason for unawareness of one side.

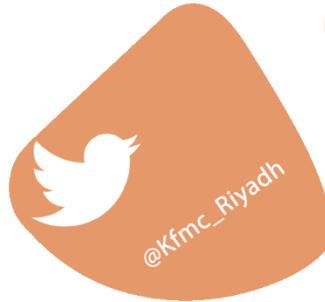
Take all the opportunity to help the patient utilize the weak side. The full cooperation of family members and caregivers contributes the success in overcoming the weak-side neglect.



# لأن الوعي وقاية ..

إدارة التمريض الصحي

**Nursing department –  
Rahab Hospital**



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