



# SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF STRANGULATION

v2.26.19

Based on: Strangulation in Intimate Partner Violence, Chapter 16, Intimate Partner Violence. Oxford University Press, Inc. 2009.

## NEUROLOGICAL

- Loss of Memory
- Loss of consciousness
- Behavioral changes
- Loss of sensation
- Extremity weakness
- Difficulty speaking
- Fainting
- Urination
- Defecation
- Vomiting
- Dizziness
- Headaches

## SCALP

- Petechiae
- Bald spots (from hair being pulled)
- Bump to the head (from blunt force trauma or falling to the ground)

## EYES & EYELIDS

- Petechiae to eyeball
- Petechiae to eyelid
- Bloody red eyeball(s)
- Vision changes
- Droopy eyelid

## EARS

- Ringing in ears
- Petechiae on earlobe(s)
- Bruising behind the ear
- Bleeding in the ear

## FACE

- Petechiae (tiny red spots slightly red or florid)
- Scratch marks
- Facial drooping
- Swelling

## MOUTH

- Bruising
- Swollen tongue
- Swollen lips
- Cuts/abrasions
- Internal Petechiae

## CHEST

- Chest pain
- Redness
- Scratch marks
- Bruising
- Abrasions

## NECK

- Redness
- Scratch marks
- Finger nail impressions
- Bruising (thumb or fingers)
- Swelling
- Ligature Marks

## VOICE & THROAT CHANGES

- Raspy or hoarse voice
- Unable to speak
- Trouble swallowing
- Painful to swallow
- Clearing the throat
- Coughing
- Nausea
- Drooling
- Sore throat
- Stridor

## BREATHING CHANGES

- Difficulty breathing
- Respiratory distress
- Unable to breathe

Original artwork and graphics by Yesenia Aceves

[strangulationtraininginstitute.com](http://strangulationtraininginstitute.com)

Copyright of The Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention. Do not replicate without permission.

ALLIANCE for  
**HOPE**  
INTERNATIONAL