

tetanus (**Chap. 152**) or may occur in patients treated with phenothiazines.

FACIAL WEAKNESS

■ ANATOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

(**Fig. 441-3**) The seventh cranial nerve supplies all the muscles concerned with facial expression, as well as the stapedius, stylohyoid, and posterior belly of the digastric. The sensory and parasympathetic components (the nervus intermedius) convey taste sensation from the anterior two-thirds of the tongue, cutaneous impulses from the anterior wall of the external auditory canal, and preganglionic parasympathetic signals to the pterygopalatine and submaxillary ganglia, stimulating lacrimation, rhinorrhea and salivation. The motor nucleus of the seventh nerve lies anterior and lateral to the abducens nucleus. After leaving the pons, the seventh nerve enters the internal auditory meatus with the acoustic nerve. The nerve continues its course in its own bony channel, the facial canal, and exits from the skull via the stylomastoid foramen. It then passes through the parotid gland and subdivides to supply the facial muscles.