



Botox

Patient Advice Sheet



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BOTOX for wrinkles

This treatment is a revolutionary wrinkle reduction procedure that can reduce or eliminate wrinkles in the upper third of the face including forehead lines, frown lines between the eyebrows and crows feet around the eyes. It is not surgery. There is no chance of scarring. It is safe and you can resume all your activities immediately after treatment.

A type of protein is used that weakens and inactivates muscles that wrinkle the skin. Initially used in 1973 to relax overactive eye muscles that caused "crossed eyes" and facial tics, it has since gained popularity to treat a number of muscular diseases and for use as a cosmetic agent.

When this solution is injected in extremely small doses directly into a specific muscle, it blocks the signals from the brain from reaching the muscle. As the muscle weakens, the skin overlying the muscle relaxes and the wrinkles caused by muscle contractions soften and often disappear.

Since the protein in the solution is only attracted to muscles, it has no effect on the central nervous system or on the body.

Treatment

It is a safe and simple procedure. A very small amount of the solution is injected with a very fine needle into several locations in the face. The pain associated with injections is mild to moderate and no local anaesthetic is required. You will be able to drive and engage in all of your usual activities immediately after your injections. You may develop slight bruising and slight swelling at the injection sites, but otherwise there will be no visible signs of your treatment. Although rare Botox can migrate and cause temporary weakness of nearby muscles such as drooping of the upper eyelid. These undesirable effects can last for 2-3 weeks.

Unfortunately, this kind of treatment is not a permanent solution to the problem of dynamic wrinkles because the injections only last about 3 to 4 months. You will need to repeat injections 3 to 4 times a year. You cannot be breast-feeding or pregnant when receiving Botox treatment.

You must inform any medical practitioner who may prescribe you the medication, about the procedure for up to 3 months after treatment. After treatment you should not

massage the area for 72 hours, you should not lay down for 4 hours and avoid bending forward for 4 hours.

BOTOX for hyperhidrosis

Hyperhidrosis or excessive sweating is a major problem for many people. Excessive sweating is not a topic often discussed. Sufferers mainly try to hide it, as profuse sweating is often associated with an unpleasant odour. In fact an odour only occurs when the sweat remains on the skin for a long time and therein forms a breeding ground for bacteria. Focal hyperhidrosis is the term given to sweating in specific areas of the body, such as the hands/and or armpits.

Treatment

Botox has been found to be effective in the management of excessive sweating. It is a bacterial protein, which acts by blocking certain nerve impulses. Before treatment commences, a powder is dusted loosely over the area to be treated, which allows the overactive sweat glands to be identified. Botox is then injected into the skin, which enters the sweat glands and specifically blocks the nerve impulses to these. Other functions of the nerves such as the sensation of touch are not

affected. The Botox takes effect after about 3 to 14 days and lasts about 3 to 6 months.

Possible complications

In the case of using Botox for wrinkle reduction, rarely, medication can migrate and cause a weakness of nearby muscles, such as drooping of the upper eyelid. These side effects are temporary, lasting for a few weeks at the most.

It is important to say that in some cases when using Botox for the management of excess sweating, although rare, the treatment may have no effect whatsoever, even after repeat injections. Unfortunately, this is impossible to predict before treatment is given.

Questions?

If you have any problems or questions please call the **Laser Clinic** on **0114 263 2101**