Frequently Asked Questions

What are the causes of wrinkles and facial expression lines?

As noted above, lines and wrinkles develop, at least in part, from the action of facial muscles under the skin. After years, furrows may remain along these facial expression lines even without any active facial muscle expression. The development of these lines is promoted by years of sun exposure, and to from these facial muscles. Botox™ is capable of preventing the unwanted facial expression lines and improves or blends the wrinkles that were visible while the muscles were at rest.

How then, does Botox™ work?

Botox™ acts by immobilizing the muscle, at treated sites. It does this by inhibiting contraction of the targeted muscles. Only those muscles producing these undesirable lines are treated.

What areas can you use Botox™ for?

Frown lines between the eyebrows, crow's feet lines and forehead wrinkles are effectively treated with the BOTOX. The treatment takes a few minutes and the BOTOX takes effect in three to four days. Patients return to work or other activities immediately after treatment.

Does the Botox™ injection hurt or cause discomfort?

When BOTOX is injected there is a minor sting for a few seconds. Once the injection is complete, there is usually no discomfort. Most patients report mild discomfort that subsides within a minute.

What kind of facial lines does it remove?

Prominent facial expression lines, especially horizontal lines on the forehead, vertical lines between the eyebrows, and crow's feet are most dramatically improved with treatment.

How does Botox™ compare to other products such as collagen and filler materials?

Unlike filler materials, Botox™ treats the underlying cause of the facial expression lines. Filler materials, such as Restylane, plump up the skin. Although fillers reduce the appearance of lines when there is no facial expression, the moment the person does smile or frown, the lines reappear. Botox™ actually prevents the unwanted lines from appearing with facial expression and often even at rest. These two products work together in tandem to help maximize the desired results.

How is treatment performed and how many treatments are required?

A small quantity of solution is injected directly into the muscles that are the cause of the prominent furrowing or expression lines. Typically several injections are given with each treatment, and one treatment is usually effective for 3-6 months. Each patient metabolizes Botox at different rates so the treatment may last longer or may not last as long.

How long do the results of Botox™ last?

Botox™ lasts for 3 to 6 months. When the effect of Botox™ wears off or diminishes, the muscles that contribute to these facial expression lines again become active, treatment can again be administered.

How does the skin appear after Botox™?

Immediately after treatment the skin appears normal as there may be some redness and swelling at the treated sites. Occasionally, there can be mild bruising. If present, these changes resolve within a few hours to days. The skin feels normal and there is no unusual sensation.

When can I expect to see results after treatment?

Within 48 hours after treatment reduction in the muscle activity can be noticed. About one week after treatment the maximal benefit is attained and continues for a few months.

Are there any limitations after treatment?

Yes. Refrain from touching the area of treatment for at least 1 hour. By pushing on the area that was treated you may cause a negative effect. Immediately after treatment you may resume all normal activities.

Are there any risks or side effects?

Rarely. If Botox™ should affect an adjacent muscle, it too may have reduced activity. This has been reported in about one percent of those treated and if this does develop, the most common change is eyelid drooping. However, any such unwanted muscle relaxation would also be temporary. There are no reports of any injury to the eye when Botox™ is administered to the muscles of the forehead.

Can Botox cause botulism?

No. Extraordinarily small amounts of Botox™ are administered. These quantities are insufficient to cause botulism or any related symptoms.

Take advantage of our ONLINE CONSULTATION to see if you're a good candidate for a Botox treatment. It's free and quick.

In our clinic, Botox injections are performed by the medical doctor only.

BOTOX® is a quick and painless procedure designed to restore freshness, youth, and beauty to faces that have been damaged by the process of living. With over 2 million BOTOX® treatments performed in 2003 alone, one may quickly gauge the popularity and effectiveness of this cosmetic procedure.

Used properly, BOTOX® dramatically decreases:

Frown lines

Forehead Furrows

Crow's Feet

Nasal muscles to decrease nostril flaring

Since its clearance by the FDA in 2002, providing proof of its safety and effectiveness, BOTOX® injections have become the single most popular non-surgical, cosmetic procedure in the United States.

Indication

BOTOX® Cosmetic is indicated for the temporary improvement in the appearance of moderate to severe glabellar lines associated with corrugator and/or procerus muscle activityin patients 18 to 65 years of age.

BOTOX® Cosmetic (onabotulinumtoxinA)

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Distant Spread of Toxin Effect

Postmarketing reports indicate that the effects of BOTOX® Cosmetic and all botulinum toxin products may spread from the area of injection to produce symptoms consistent with botulinum toxin effects. These may include asthenia, generalized muscle weakness, diplopia, blurred vision, ptosis, dysphagia, dysphonia, dysarthria, urinary incontinence, and breathing difficulties. These symptoms have been reported hours to weeks after injection. Swallowing and breathing difficulties can be life threatening, and there have been reports of death. The risk of symptoms is probably greatest in children treated for spasticity, but symptoms can also occur in adults treated for spasticity and other conditions, particularly in those patients who have underlying conditions that would predispose them to these symptoms. In unapproved uses, including spasticity in

children and adults, and in approved indications, cases of spread of effect have occurred at doses comparable to those used to treat cervical dystonia and at lower doses.

CONTRADICATIONS

BOTOX® Cosmetic is contraindicated in the presence of infection at the proposed injection site(s) and in individuals with known hypersensitivity to any botulinum toxin preparation or to any of the components in the formulation.

WARNINGS

The recommended dosage and frequency of administration for BOTOX® Cosmetic should not be exceeded. Risks resulting from administration at higher dosages are not known.

Lack of Interchangeability Between Botulinum Toxin Products

The potency Units of BOTOX® Cosmetic are specific to the preparation and assay method utilized. They are not interchangeable with other preparations of botulinum toxin products and, therefore, Units of biological activity of BOTOX® Cosmetic cannot be compared to or converted into Units of any other botulinum toxin products assessed with any other specific assay method.

Spread of Toxin Effect

Please refer to Boxed Warning for Distant Spread of Toxin Effect.

No definitive, serious adverse event reports of distant spread of toxin effect associated with dermatologic use of BOTOX® Cosmetic at the labeled dose of 20 Units (for glabellar lines) have been reported.

Hypersensitivity Reactions

Serious and/or immediate hypersensitivity reactions have been reported. These reactions include anaphylaxis, urticaria, soft-tissue edema, and dyspnea. If such reactions occur, further injection of BOTOX® Cosmetic should be discontinued and appropriate medical therapy immediately instituted. One fatal case of anaphylaxis has been reported in which lidocaine was used as the diluent and, consequently, the causal agent cannot be reliably determined.

Pre-existing Neuromuscular Disorders

Individuals with peripheral motor neuropathic diseases, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or neuromuscular junctional disorders (eg, myasthenia gravis or Lambert-Eaton syndrome) should be monitored particularly closely when given botulinum toxin. Patients with neuromuscular disorders may be at increased risk of clinically significant effects including severe dysphagia and respiratory compromise from typical doses of BOTOX® Cosmetic.

PRECAUTIONS

Caution should be used when BOTOX® Cosmetic treatment is used in patients who have an inflammatory skin problem at the injection site, marked facial asymmetry, ptosis, excessive dermatochalasis, deep dermal scarring, thick sebaceous skin, or the inability to substantially lessen glabellar lines by physically spreading them apart.

Information for Patients

Patients should be counseled that if loss of strength, muscle weakness, or impaired vision occur, they should avoid driving a car or engaging in other potentially

hazardous activities.

Pregnancy

Administration of BOTOX® Cosmetic is not recommended during pregnancy. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of BOTOX® Cosmetic in pregnant women.

Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether BOTOX® Cosmetic is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when BOTOX® Cosmetic is administered to a nursing woman.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The most serious adverse events reported after treatment with botulinum toxin include spontaneous reports of death, sometimes associated with anaphylaxis, dysphagia, pneumonia, and/or other significant debility.

There have also been reports of adverse events involving the cardiovascular system, including arrhythmia and myocardial infarction, some with fatal outcomes. Some of these patients had risk factors including pre-existing cardiovascular disease.

The most frequently reported adverse events following injection of BOTOX® Cosmetic include blepharoptosis and nausea.

Overdosage

Excessive doses of BOTOX® Cosmetic may be expected to produce neuromuscular weakness with a variety of symptoms. Respiratory support may be required where excessive doses cause paralysis of respiratory muscles. In the event of overdose, the patient should be medically monitored for symptoms of excessive muscle weakness or muscle paralysis.

In the event of suspected or actual overdosage, please contact your local or state health department to process a request for antitoxin through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)