

Botulinum Toxin Therapy for Wrinkle Correction Patient Information and Consent Form

What is Botulinum Toxin?

Botulinum toxin is a bacterium that blocks the release of acetylcholine, the substance responsible for transmitting electrical impulses that elicit muscle contraction. In medicine, botulinum toxin is injected directly into hyperactive muscles. It has been safely and effectively used for treatment of strabismus (cross-eye) and blepharospasm (lid spasm) since the early eighties.

How does botulinum toxin work?

Hyperactivity of the facial expression muscles often results in the development of deep frown lines, forehead lines and/or crow's feet. Injecting botulinum toxin into the affected area temporarily paralyzes the underlying muscles responsible for wrinkling, giving the face a more relaxed and pleasant appearance. The wrinkles become smoother or disappear altogether.

When and how long does botulinum toxin work?

The initial effects of treatment become visible within 48 to 72 hours. The maximum effect is reached in about 1 to 2 weeks. Your facial expression will become more relaxed but by no means mask-like. The overall result is very natural. The effect of treatment generally lasts for 4 to 6 months. Re-treatment is then required.

Potential adverse effects (side effects)

Botulinum toxin injection is generally a safe and effective treatment method. Nevertheless, certain side effects can occur but, like the intended treatment effects, they are mostly reversible. At this appointment, you will be informed about the potential side effects of botulinum toxin therapy, contradictions to therapy, and potential drug interactions.

Potential side effects:

- Bruising or swelling at the injection site
- Slight feeling nausea
- Tiredness
- Pain in the arms and legs
- Temporary drooping of the eyebrow or upper eyelid
- Brief visual disturbances
- Dryness of the eyes
- Skin rash/itching
- Allergic reactions
- Dry mouth
- Muscle atrophy

Contradictions

- Pregnancy
- Breast-feeding
- Myasthenia gravis
- Lambert-Eaton syndrome
- Blood coagulation disorders

Drug interactions

Drug interactions can occur when botulinum toxin is used concomitantly with other medications. Since these medications can alter the effects of botulinum toxin, you must ensure that your doctor is aware of any current medications you are taking especially:

- Aminoglycoside antibiotics
- Anaesthetics
- Muscle relaxants

Consent to treatment

All foreseeable risks of botulinum toxin therapy listed above have been thoroughly explained to me. My questions regarding the treatment procedure, its potential side effects and contradictions were answered to my full satisfaction. I also had adequate time to consider my decision.

I understand that I am free to revoke my consent at any time without the need to give any reasons. By placing my signature below, I declare my consent to cosmetic treatment with Botulinum Toxin Type-A.

Signature of Patient:.....

Date:.....

Witnessed by (signature of nurse):.....