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Botox™

General Information

What are Botox™ injections for?

Dynamic wrinkles are caused by contractions of the delicate muscles under the facial skin every time you smile, laugh or frown. Now thanks to a new use for an approved drug, dynamic lines can be dramatically softened. The procedure known as cosmetic denervation uses Botox™ injections to improve the appearance of worry lines, frown lines, laughter lines, crows' feet and other dynamic wrinkles.

How does Botox™ work?

Botox™ relaxes the tiny facial muscles that are related to expression lines so they do not contract. After treatment, the overlying skin remains smooth and unwrinkled whilst the untreated facial muscles contract in a normal fashion, allowing normal facial expression to be unaffected.

Are Botox™ treatments safe?

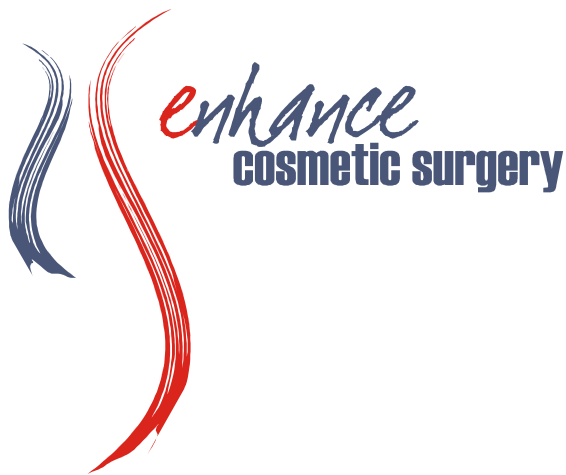
Botox™ injections have been used safely and effectively for over ten years to treat many eye and nerve conditions. Each year thousands of patients receive Botox™ treatments for a variety of causes and it is quickly becoming a popular treatment for reversing the visible signs of ageing.

What is the treatment like?

Cosmetic denervation with Botox™ is a simple and safe procedure. Using a tiny needle, a small amount of Botox™ is injected, very precisely, into several points on the face. Because the needle is so fine and only a small amount of liquid is used, the discomfort associated with the injections is minimal. No sedation or local anesthetic is required and you can resume normal activities immediately. You can even drive yourself home or back to work.

Are there any side effects?

Temporary bruising is the most common side effect, which can be covered with make-up. In some cases the toxin can migrate and cause a temporary weakness of nearby muscles. In rare cases there can be a drooping of an eyelid or asymmetry of facial expression. The risk of any side-effect depends on the muscles injected. Your doctor will discuss this with you before your treatment.



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What results can I expect?

If dynamic wrinkles make you look older than you are, cosmetic denervation can smooth these out and give you a more youthful and pleasant appearance. However, this procedure cannot improve wrinkles due to ageing and sun-damaged skin as they are unrelated to facial muscle contractions. Botox™ injections will not improve sagging skin or replace the need for a facelift.

What are the limitations of Botox™ injections?

Unfortunately, Botox™ injections are only a temporary solution for the treatment of dynamic wrinkles. The effects of the injections last from three to four months and you are likely to need to have injections about every four months. Early clinical studies indicate that the duration of treatment benefits increase over time, so that you should require injections less frequently once treatment has begun. Also, the duration of effect varies from patient to patient and may be less effective for those over 65 years of age.

How can I find out if I am a candidate for Botox™?

If you would like to learn more about your cosmetic options, or find out if Botox™ treatments might work well for you, please call our clinic and schedule a free consultation with the doctor.

Post Injection Advice

Although no sedation or local anesthetic is used with Botox™ injections and you can resume normal activities, there are certain activities which are best avoided for 4 hours after your treatment. These include bending over repeatedly (for example shoe shopping), exercise & facial massages. You should also remain upright for this period.