

Botox Check List and FAQ?

What is Botox?

It is botulinum toxin used to paralyze the muscles. It then softens and in some cases eliminates facial lines.

The Food and Drug Administration has approved for its use between the brows (glabellar area), but it can be used (off label) for the crow's feet and forehead. Other areas are not commonly injected.

Is it safe?

Yes, it is. It has been injected for years with few side effects. There may be some bruising, tenderness, or swelling at the injection site. The crow's feet have the highest incidence of bruising.

Who should not be injected with Botox?

- Patients who are pregnant or breast-feeding
- Patients who have neuromuscular diseases such as multiple sclerosis or muscular dystrophy
- Patients 65 years of age and over have the highest non-response rate to Botox of over 60% not responsive to Botox should be aware that they may not have paralysis of the treated area that is expected
- Allergies to eggs or Gentamycin (an antibiotic), or previous allergic reaction to Botox

When can you see the results?

It takes 3-5 days to see it work. It usually lasts about 3 months with return of muscle activity slowly starting about 1-½ months to full return at 3 months. In a small segment of the population, Botox will not work (about 10%) in those under 50. Patients over 50 have higher non-response rate than those under 50. Those over 65 have the highest non-response rate.

Very deep or etched facial lines will not be completely eliminated because these are actual grooves in the skin that will remain even when the muscle is paralyzed under this facial line. With repeated treatment, it may soften with time, though not completely eliminated.

What do I need to do before treatment?

Do not take any aspirin or advil-like medications, as this will increase bruising. Some medicines such as Plavix and coumadin/warfarin increase the risks of bleeding, and you will likely not be a candidate for this elective cosmetic injection.

What happens at the time of treatment?

The doctor will take a brief history and explain the procedure to you. You will be asked to sign consent forms for those treated for the first time by our doctor. Instructions for follow up and care will be given.

What do I do after treatment?

Do not exercise for 24 hours, and do not tan or go in a sauna. Ice packs can be placed on the treated areas to minimize swelling.

It is recommended that you be treated every three months to maintain your results.

How much does it cost?

Cost will depend on how much Botox is used and how many areas treated. The price is based on how many units are used. We charge \$_____ per unit. Though treatment amounts vary in individuals, the area between the brows uses 20 units, the forehead 10-20 units, and the crow's feet 12-20 units.