

BOTOX[®] Injections

General Information

BOTOX[®] is a medicine that is injected into specific muscles to relax them. Botox is made from a toxin that comes from the bacteria *Clostridium botulinum*. This toxin causes a type of food poisoning called botulism. BOTOX is used in small amounts to treat:

- facial wrinkles (frown lines) between the eyebrows
- hyperhidrosis: too much underarm sweating
- blepharospasm: abnormal blinking or spasms of the eyelid(s)
- strabismus: eyes not aligned with each other (eyes do not work together)
- cervical dystonia: neck muscles that spasm, causing the head to twist and turn to one side.

You should not have BOTOX if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

What to Expect When Having BOTOX Injections

BOTOX injections take about 10 to 15 minutes.

During the treatment

- Your health care provider will use a thin needle to inject BOTOX into your skin or muscles.
- You may have some discomfort from the injections.

After the treatment

- You may continue your normal daily activities.
- Do not rub or massage the areas where you had the injections.

Possible Side Effects

After receiving a BOTOX injection, you may have one, some, all or none of the following side effects:

- soreness or pain at the injection site
- headache
- drooping of the eyelids
- fever
- flu-like symptoms
- upset stomach, nausea
- dry mouth
- vision problems
- problems swallowing or breathing.

This is a partial list of the side effects you may have with this medicine. Please talk with your health care provider if you have any questions.

How Often You Can Have BOTOX Injections

It takes about two weeks to notice the results from BOTOX injections. The results are not permanent (lasting). If you want to keep your results, you will need to have follow-up injections once every 3 to 6 months.

Insurance Coverage

It is important to understand your health care benefits before your treatment. BOTOX injections may or may not be covered by your insurance provider. This will depend on if it is a medical or cosmetic treatment. Call your insurance provider to find out exactly what is and isn't covered under your plan, and how much you have to pay yourself.