

Patient Information

Botox Cosmetic **Frequently Asked Questions**

What does Botox Cosmetic do?

BOTOX® Cosmetic is a simple, nonsurgical, physician-administered treatment that can temporarily smooth moderate to severe wrinkles and lines. Since its FDA approval in 2002 for cosmetic use, over a million people have been treated with Botox Cosmetic. In the field of ophthalmology, Botox has been used by our doctors since the 1980s.

What areas can be treated?

BOTOX® Cosmetic is used to smooth the wrinkles and lines in the forehead, brow area and crow's feet around the eyes.

What exactly is BOTOX® Cosmetic?

BOTOX® Cosmetic is a purified protein produced by the Clostridium botulinum bacterium. It is a nonsurgical, physician-administered treatment that can temporarily reduce moderate to severe frown lines between the brows in people 18 to 65 years of age. During treatment, very low doses of BOTOX® Cosmetic are administered via a few tiny injections directly into the muscles that cause those stubborn lines. The treatment is usually done in about 10 minutes, and no recovery time is needed. Within days, you may see an improvement that can last up to 4 months. Results may vary.

How does BOTOX® Cosmetic work?

Those moderate to severe frown lines between your brows form over time as the result of muscle activity. BOTOX® Cosmetic is injected directly into the muscles between your brows. It works by blocking the transmission of nerve impulses to the injected muscles; this reduces the activity of the muscles that cause those persistent lines to form.

When will I see results from a BOTOX® Cosmetic treatment?

Within days, you may see a marked improvement in the moderate to severe frown lines between your brows. Lines continue to improve for up to a month, and results can last for up to 4 months. In clinical trials, nearly 90% of men and women rated the improvement in their appearance as moderate to better 1 month after treatment. Results may vary.

Continued Page 2

How long does BOTOX® Cosmetic last?

Results from treatment with BOTOX® Cosmetic can last for up to 4 months. If you discontinue treatment, the frown lines between your brows gradually will look like they did before treatment.

Who should administer BOTOX® Cosmetic?

Only an authorized healthcare professional can administer BOTOX® Cosmetic. However, ophthalmologists have the most experience with the drug. Botox was introduced in the 1980s by ophthalmologists as a treatment for uncontrollable facial and eyelid spasms and eye muscle problems. As a side benefit of these treatments, many patients noticed that the wrinkles around their eyes were diminished and began asking for further treatments specifically to achieve this effect.

More than any other medical specialty, eye surgeons are trained to perform surgery on the delicate tissues surrounding the eye, which is where BOTOX® Cosmetic treatments are given.

Is treatment with BOTOX® Cosmetic painful?

Discomfort is usually minimal and brief. Prior to injecting, your physician may choose to numb the area with a cold pack or anesthetic cream. The entire procedure takes approximately 10 minutes. Many people are in and out of the physician's office without downtime following BOTOX® Cosmetic treatment.

Who should not use BOTOX® Cosmetic?

BOTOX® Cosmetic should not be used in the presence of infection at the proposed injection site(s) and in individuals with known hypersensitivity to any ingredient in the formulation. Patients with neuromuscular disorders such as ALS, myasthenia gravis or Lambert-Eaton syndrome may be at increased risk of serious side effects.

Will I experience any side effects?

The most common side effects following injection include temporary eyelid droop and nausea. Localized pain, infection, inflammation, tenderness, swelling, redness, and/or bleeding/bruising may be associated with the injection. Patients with certain neuromuscular disorders such as ALS, myasthenia gravis, or Lambert-Eaton syndrome may be at increased risk of serious side effects.

Will my facial expressions continue to look natural?

Although the results are visible, a treatment with BOTOX® Cosmetic will not radically change your facial appearance or make you look as if you "had work done." The muscle activity that causes frown lines between the brows is simply reduced, so you can still frown or look surprised without the wrinkles and creases between your brows.

What will happen to my frown lines if I choose not to continue treatments?

If you do not continue treatments, the moderate to severe frown lines between your brows will gradually look like they did before treatment.

What should I tell my doctor before using BOTOX® Cosmetic?

Only your doctor can decide if BOTOX® Cosmetic is right for you. Before starting treatment, tell your doctor if you:

- have any diseases that affect your nerves and muscles. These diseases may increase your chance of side effects with BOTOX® Cosmetic treatment.
- are breastfeeding
- have an infection where BOTOX® Cosmetic will be injected
- are allergic to any of the ingredients in BOTOX® Cosmetic
- are pregnant, think you might be pregnant, or planning to become pregnant soon.

Can any of my medicines interact with BOTOX® Cosmetic?

Be sure that your doctor knows the names of all the medicines you are using, including:

- antibiotics used to treat infections, such as gentamicin, tobramycin, clindamycin, and lincomycin
- medicines used to treat heart rhythm problems, such as quinidine
- medicines used to treat different conditions, such as myasthenia gravis or Alzheimer's disease.

As with all prescription medicines, you should also notify your doctor if you are taking any over-the-counter medicines or herbal products.

Will I be able to make facial expressions?

After treatment with BOTOX® Cosmetic, you may look in the mirror and see a marked improvement in the moderate to severe frown lines between your brows. But BOTOX® Cosmetic will not radically change your facial appearance. You can still frown or look surprised—without the wrinkles and creases between your brows.

What does FDA Approval mean?

You've heard it many times before: A product is advertised as "FDA-approved." But what does that really mean?

In the United States, prescription drugs and biologics are required to undergo rigorous laboratory, animal, and human clinical testing before they can be put on the market. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reviews the results of these studies to:

- verify the identity, potency, purity, and stability of the "ingredients," and
- demonstrate that the drug is safe and effective for its intended use.

Continued Page 4

BOTOX® Cosmetic received FDA approval in 2002 for the temporary treatment of moderate to severe frown lines between the brows in people 18 to 65 years of age. BOTOX® Cosmetic is available by prescription only.

What should I expect at the doctors office?

Here's what you might expect at the doctor's office from the moment you arrive until your procedure is done.

The day of your appointment. Allow time before your appointment for filling out forms and for consulting with the doctor or a member of his or her staff. If it's your initial visit, you may first meet with your doctor personally or a staff member. Many doctors have on-staff licensed aestheticians or nurses who are trained in skin care and skin care procedures who can answer many of your questions.

You may also be asked about your expectations for treatment and if you have any allergies or any condition that wouldn't make you a good candidate for BOTOX® Cosmetic.

Before the procedure. You'll be seated in a reclining chair. No anesthesia is required, although your doctor may choose to numb the area with a cold pack or anesthetic cream.

The procedure. Your doctor will determine where to administer the injections by examining your ability to move certain muscles in your brow area. The entire BOTOX® Cosmetic injection procedure takes approximately 10 minutes.

After the procedure. There's no recovery time needed. You're ready to get on with your day! The most common side effects following injection include temporary eyelid droop and nausea. Localized pain, infection, inflammation, tenderness, swelling, redness, and/or bleeding/bruising may be associated with the injection. Patients with certain neuromuscular disorders such as ALS, myasthenia gravis, or Lambert-Eaton syndrome may be at increased risk of serious side effects.

Seeing results. Within days, you may notice an improvement in the moderate to severe frown lines between your brows that can last up to 4 months. Results may vary

Where can I get more information?

For more information, visit us at www.carolinaeye.com or contact our patient services counselor by phone at 910.295.1501 or 800.733.9355, or by email at info@carolinaeye.com.

If at any time you need to reach our main center, please call 910.295.2100 or 800.733.5357.

Information obtained from www.botoxcosmetic.com