

## Botox Injections

Botox is a therapeutic muscle-relaxing agent that works at the motor neurons that lead to muscles. This class of drug is called a neurotoxin.

Botox is a novel therapeutic agent derived from bacteria. Botulinum Toxin Type A. It is produced in laboratories and is given in extremely small therapeutic doses. Botox is being used in treating myofascial pain and several conditions associated with muscle activity.

Botox is not a new treatment, It has been used over 10 years in hundreds of thousands of patients worldwide. It has been recognized by the American Academy of Neurology and by the American Academy of National Institutes of Health as being a valuable treatment. Botox is not a cure but a treatment.

Here is how it works----Normally the brain sends electrical messages to your muscles so that they contract and move. The electrical message is transmitted to the muscle by a substance called acetylcholine. Botox blocks the release of acetylcholine and as a result the muscle doesn't receive the message to contract. This means the muscle spasm is stopped or greatly reduced after using Botox. Botox does provide predictable and reliable relief from symptoms.

How is the injection given----Botox is administered into the muscle with a very fine needle. Some patients have reported a minor and temporary discomfort from the injection.

When will I see Botox start to work? Usually you will see effects of Botox within three days. The maximum results can be expected in one or two weeks. The relief you feel from a single injection can be sustained for approximately three to six months, with a gradual fading of it's effects. Symptoms may vary throughout the course of the condition and so the duration of the effect varies from person to person.

Botox should not be used if you are pregnant or with nursing. The effects of Botox can be increased with the use of certain antibiotics or other drugs that can interfere with neuromuscular transmission.

Talk with your doctor regarding the best possible results with Botox.