

BOTOX INFORMED CONSENT

INTRODUCTION

This form is known as an "Informed Consent." Before you have any procedures done by a doctor, the doctor must receive your consent (or permission) to perform the procedure. Also, the doctor must give you adequate information about the procedure, its benefits, its risks and its alternatives. In other words, your consent must be "informed".

Below are the benefits, alternatives and risks of the procedure. Sometimes, the risks can sound frightening. This information is not meant to scare or alarm you. The vast majority of people receiving Botox have no side effects or undesired effects, at all, and when side effects do occur they are usually mild and transient. Please ask any questions you may have.

THE PROCEDURE AND ITS BENEFITS

Botox is FDA approved for treatment of frown lines and wrinkles between the brows. It works by preventing contraction of the underlying muscles, thereby decreasing the wrinkles that are formed by muscle movement. If the wrinkles are too deep, Botox may not get rid of them completely. Botox treatment consists of a series of injections through a tiny needle to muscles of the face. The Botox takes about a week to take effect, and the effects usually last usually about 3-4 months. Repeat injections are required to maintain the effect. Botox works by causing changes in nerve transmission in the injected muscles. This causes a decrease in the ability to contract the muscles, which in turn results in decrease in the wrinkle lines, and also in the ability to frown and make some facial expressions. As time passes, the nerve transmission can resume and the wrinkles and lines of facial expression can return. Although Botox is FDA approved for use in a specific region, physicians also use it in other areas of the face. This is called "off-label" use of the medication, and if you request that Botox be used in areas other than the frown lines, this will be an "off-label" use.

ALTERNATIVES TO TREATMENT

There is no medically necessary reason for the cosmetic use of Botox. The main alternative is to have no treatment at all. Other options for removing wrinkles include the use of fillers, laser and surgical procedures.

RISKS AND UNDESIRE EFFECTS OF TREATMENT

Risks, undesired effects and side-effects include, but are not limited to the following:

Bruising: One of the possible undesired effects of Botox is the possibility of bruising at the injection site. Some medications, such as aspirin, warfarin, Coumadin, Motrin, ibuprofen, anti-inflammatory medications and vitamin E, can increase these risks. If you are on any of these medications, your risk of bleeding or bruising will be higher. However, even without these medications there is a risk of bruising just as with any injection. If bruising occurs, it usually lasts a few days.

Swelling & Redness There may be some localized swelling and redness at the injection site that lasts a few minutes to a few hours.

Weakness of nearby muscles Rarely Botox can diffuse to surrounding muscles, like the muscles of the eyelid (causing droopiness) or the muscles that control eye movement (causing double vision). In the case of injections around the mouth, Botox may interfere with whistling, drinking through a straw, chewing and pronunciation. To decrease these risks, it is recommended that you do not massage or press the area of the injections for the next 24 hours and that you refrain from bending, rigorous exercise and excessive heat for the next 24 hours.

Under correction & Overcorrection: Under correction (not enough effect), as well as overcorrection (too much effect) can occur. Botox may also result in facial asymmetry, where one side of the face looks different than the other. In the case of under correction, additional Botox can be administered. In the case of overcorrection, the effect will diminish over several weeks as the muscles regain their ability to contract.

Miscellaneous Side Effects In the original study that described the use of Botox, one group of people received Botox, and the other did not receive Botox. Both groups experienced headaches, flu-like syndromes or respiratory infections, nausea, and weakness. These are all common symptoms that occurred at about the same rate in both the group that received Botox, and the group that did not receive Botox. So, although there is no indication that Botox is the "cause" of these side effects, it is important for you to be informed that you may experience these common occurrences after your Botox injection.

Permanent Loss of Muscle Tone With repeated injections, permanent loss of the ability of the muscle to contract can result.

Antibodies to Botox: It is possible to develop antibodies to Botox. This will result in the Botox having minimal or no effect.

Reaction to Botox: Any medication or drug has the potential to cause allergic reactions in a small number of people. Symptoms of an allergic reaction can include rash, hives, itching, shortness of breath, and rarely death. In general, allergic reactions to medicines are more likely to occur in people who have allergies to other drugs, foods, or things in the environment, such as dust or grass. If you have allergies to other medicines, foods, or other things in the environment, or if you have asthma, let your doctor know.

Theoretical risks: Botox contains human-derived albumin and carries a theoretical risk of virus transmission. There have been no reports of disease transmission through Botox.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

You must not have Botox if you are pregnant; nursing; allergic to egg or albumin; have an infection, skin condition or muscle weakness at the site of the injection; or if you have any neuromuscular diseases such as Eaton-Lambert syndrome, Lou Gehrig's disease or myasthenia gravis.

CONSENT

I understand the risks associated with this procedure as well as the alternatives to this procedure. I also understand that there may be other RISKS OR COMPLICATIONS, SERIOUS INJURY OR EVEN DEATH from

both known and unknown causes. I am aware that the practice of medicine is not an exact science and I acknowledge that no guarantees have been made to me concerning the risks or the results of the procedure.

I certify that I do not have any of the above contraindications to treatment.

I agree that this constitutes full disclosure, and that it supersedes any previous verbal or written disclosures. I certify that I have read, and fully understand the above paragraphs, and that I have had sufficient opportunity for discussion and to ask questions.

I give my informed consent to receive Botox injections today as well as for future treatments as needed.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

WITNESS

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

INTERPRETER'S CERTIFICATION

I have provided accurate translation of the contents of this form to the person whose signature is affixed above.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____