

Wrinkles, Migraines and Treatment of the Axillae with Botulinum Toxin (BTA)

What is Botulinum toxin?

Botulinum Toxin (BTA) is a naturally occurring bacterial protein. It is separated by the bacteria *Clostridium Botulinum* and isolated in numerous detailed steps of cleaning. Botulinum Toxin is used in plastic surgery for smoothing wrinkles in the facial, neck and cleavage area and also for treating increased activity in the axillae. BTA is also extremely successful with migraines.

How does Botulinum Toxin work?

The creation of wrinkle in the face is genetic and due to overactive muscles. Botulinum Toxin stops the transmission of stimuli when injected into the muscles so that the appropriate muscle can no longer be tensed as before. The relaxation of the treated muscle results in the smoothing of the wrinkles, without changing the normal facial expression. BTA stops increased activity in the axillae and helps curb migraine complaints when applied specifically.

How does a treatment with Botulinum Toxin work?

We will discuss with you which regions should be treated prior to every treatment. The substance is injected into the region to be treated with an extremely fine needle. The incision is tiny (patients sometimes describe a slight burning sensation). We would also be pleased to offer you local anaesthetic. The effect sets in after 2-3 days. The full effect is easily visible after approx. one week. The complete smoothing result lasts for between 4-6 months and for 12 months on average for the treatment of the axillae. The effect can fail to occur at all in some rare cases.

Which side effects can occur?

Irritation of the skin or infection, a slight swelling or a small bruise can occur in rare cases. You should therefore not take any blood-thinning medicine at least one week prior to the operation (see special info from MiraMed on this subject). There can also be the short-term dropping of the upper eyelid or eyebrow, tear dropping, headaches, dryness of the mouth, tiredness, a feeling of numbness or a general feeling of illness in some rare cases. All side-effects are short-term, according to today's medical knowledge. Botulinum Toxin is not to be used on patients with nerve or muscular illnesses as well as during pregnancy.

What do I have to bear in mind after a treatment with Botulinum Toxin?

The effects can be diminished or completely wiped out due to the patient's taking certain medicines (i.e. Vitamin C and various antibiotics). You should avoid heavy physical activity as well as touching the areas where the injections were made for twelve hours after the treatment. You should avoid all activities that could lead to increased circulation (i.e. sauna, sun, solarium, sport) for one week. You should tense the muscle treated often for some hours so that the substance can spread well.

Please arrange for an appointment or get in contact with us if you are interested in this treatment. We would be happy to advise you and deal with any questions you might have!