



**Jenkins Dental**

## **BOTULINUM TOXIN THERAPY FOR WRINKLE SOFTENING**

### What is Botulinum Toxin?

Botulinum toxin is a bacterium that blocks the release of acetylcholine, which is the substance responsible for transmitting electrical impulses that elicit muscle contraction. In medicine, botulinum toxin is injected directly into hyperactive muscles. It has been safely and effectively used for treatment of cross-eye and eyelid spasm since the early 1980's.

### How does Botulinum toxin work?

Hyperactivity of the facial expression muscles often results in the development of deep frown lines, forehead lines and crow's feet. Injecting BTX into the affected area temporarily paralyses the underlying muscles responsible for wrinkles, which become smoother or disappear giving the face a more relaxed and pleasing appearance.

### When and for how long does Botulinum toxin work?

The initial effects of treatment are visible within 2-4 days. Maximum effect in 1-2 weeks. The aim is for a natural relaxed look. Treatment usually lasts for 3-4 months. Re-treatment is then required. Loyalty discounts on repeat treatments.

### Potential side effects

Generally a safe and effective treatment. However some side effects can occur but like the treatment they are usually temporary eg bruising, swelling, nausea, eyebrow or lid droop, brief visual disturbance, dry eyes, skin rash, itching, allergy, dry mouth, muscle atrophy. Contraindications include Pregnancy, breast feeding, MS, Myasthenia gravis, bleeding disorders, coronary patients and those taking certain drugs: Aminoglycosides, muscle relaxants, anaesthetic, calcium channel blocker.

Treatments are planned for individuals and cost may vary, often resulting in a lower fee than expected if multiple areas treated for example. All Treatment fees include a Complimentary 2 week review and free adjustment then if clinically necessary.