



0800 SKIN DR (0800 754 637)

Botox Treatment for Chronic Migraine Patient information sheet

Botulinum is an approved medication to reduce chronic migraine symptoms up to 50 % although some patients will have a better outcome. Some patients will not respond to this treatment.

Chronic migraine is defined as headache occurring on 15 or more days/month for more than 3 months, which, on at least 8 days/month, has the features of migraine headache and associated symptoms. It is important that there is not an underlying serious cause for your headache. Before we undertake Botulinum treatment for your migraines, we will be requesting that you have documentation from your General practitioner or Neurologist to verify that you have a history of chronic migraine and there are no underlying serious causes for your headaches.

What is involved

You will be required to have an initial consultation and treatment with the Skin Institute Cosmetic Doctor. If the Doctor deems you are suitable for the treatment and you wish to proceed, then treatment may occur on the day. Follow up treatments may be able to be undertaken with a Nurse who has advanced training in this treatment, but you will require yearly reviews with your treating Doctor. The treatment involves injecting botulinum into sites on the forehead, frown and scalp areas. Additional sites may be indicated in the neck and shoulders. Often you will develop migraine symptoms shortly after injecting and you should plan for this. Bring your migraine medication and have someone available to drive you home if needed.

Treatment results

Treatment results can take up to 14 days. Results are variable. You may have 50 % reduction in your migraines for up to three to four months. Some people have a better outcome and there are some people who do not respond. If you do not respond the treatment is not refundable.

What are the side effects?

Possible side effects include

- Headache or precipitation of migraine on the day of treatment
- Bruise or tenderness at the needle entry point.
- Very rarely, prolonged headache or flu-like symptoms.
- Temporary weakness in targeted or nearby, non-target muscles caused by unwanted migration. Weakness varies according to area treated and muscle affected and wears off gradually over 2-8 weeks: This includes
 - Frown and forehead area: Eyelid or brow ptosis, uneven brow position, uneven forehead lines
 - Temporal area: weakness in chewing decreased bite strength
 - Neck and shoulders: neck or shoulder weakness

Who cannot have this treatment?

Patients with undocumented history of chronic migraine and/or no clearance documentation from GP or neurologist. Patients who have, or develop, new symptoms which may suggest an underlying disorder causing the headaches. In addition, the following are contraindications to this treatment. Known allergy to botox, myasthenia gravis, Eaton Lambert syndrome, motor neurone disease. Presence of infection at the proposed injection site. Pregnancy and breast feeding. Treatment may not be suitable for people with multiple sclerosis, current use of aminoglycoside antibiotics or narrow angle glaucoma.

Commented [SD1]:

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the clinic on:0800 SKIN DR (0800 754 637)

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Patient's Initials

