

Monarch Laser & Wellness Centre

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BOTOX COSMETIC®

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS BOTOX COSMETIC®?

BOTOX Cosmetic® is a treatment for wrinkles caused by repeated movements. The most commonly treated areas include:

- the lines around the eyes known as **crow's feet** caused by squinting or smiling.
- the horizontal lines across the **forehead** caused by raising the eyebrows.
- the lines & folding of skin between the eyebrows caused by **frowning**.
- create a subtle **brow lift**, soften turned down **mouth**, soften **necklace lines**
- soften lines on the nasal bridge(**bunny lines**), reduce **gum show** when you smile

IS IT SAFE?

Yes! BOTOX® has been available for 20 years and has been used to treat many diseases. In fact, it is used in children as young as 2 years old to treat cerebral palsy. These children receive over 10 times the amount used for cosmetic purposes - EVERY 3 months! BOTOX Cosmetic® is an approved prescription drug and is approved by both the FDA as well as the Health Protection Branch in Canada.

WILL IT GIVE ME FOOD POISONING/IS IT BOTULISM?

BOTOX Cosmetic® is NOT botulism and it will not cause food poisoning. To clarify, Botulism is the name of an illness not the name of the active drug. The product is a purified protein extracted from naturally occurring bacteria and then rigorously processed under strict pharmaceutical manufacturing guidelines. It is similar to how penicillin comes from mould.

HOW DO I KNOW IT WON'T BE TOXIC TO ME?

Typically, for a cosmetic treatment, you may receive under 100 units. To make someone remotely sick, you would have to receive OVER 35 times this dose all at one time which would never happen. You are getting therapeutically proven VERY TINY doses.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

BOTOX Cosmetic® works by simply relaxing the muscles underneath the skin to create a smooth and refreshed appearance.

HOW LONG DOES THE PROCEDURE TAKE?

Generally, after the consultation, the procedure only takes up to 15 minutes. Since there is no downtime you can do it on your lunchtime and no one would know you have had it done!

HOW QUICKLY DOES IT WORK?

It can take UPTO 2 WEEKS for it to take full effect. However you can begin to see results as soon as the next day.

HOW IS IT DONE/DOES IT HURT?

It is injected with a very delicate insulin-type needle. Most clients say the injections feel similar to a little pinch, although everyone is different. We usually hear, "Is that all?"

HOW LONG DOES BOTOX COSMETIC® LAST? IS IT PERMANENT?

No! BOTOX Cosmetic® is not permanent. It lasts between 3-4 months on average but everyone is different. If you have your first 3 treatments promptly every 3 months, the next few treatments will start to last longer than 3 months.

IS IT GOING TO BE WORSE WHEN IT WEARS OFF?

No! Your face will never get worse if you stop using BOTOX Cosmetic® or when it wears off. BOTOX Cosmetic® "stops/slows" the clock of aging. When you stop getting treatments, the "aging clock" resumes like normal. At the very most, you will simply return to where you started. If you use BOTOX Cosmetic® for a number of years and then stop- your muscles learn to relax and therefore, you will end up looking a little better than when you originally started.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The cost of treatment varies by each patient and a personal consultation can give you a specific amount. The cost per unit is \$10 and the number of units that YOU will need can be given to you during a consultation. For example, a typical female who is interested in having her frown lines treated, the cost might be approximately \$360.

WHAT IS A UNIT?

A unit of BOTOX Cosmetic® is simply a very tiny measurement of drug (1/100th of a mL)

I DON'T WANT TO LOOK LIKE A MASK WITHOUT EXPRESSION - WILL THAT HAPPEN?

No. We will ensure you get the look you want- as natural as you want. Most people simply want to look NATURAL and RELAXED, without looking "done".

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?

Side effects are RARE and are NOT PERMANENT. Most commonly, there can be some minor bruising (which can be covered up with makeup) or a short-term headache. Rarely side effects can include a drooping or puffy eyelid. The incidence of these side effects is less than 1% and will last from only a few days to a few weeks. Most patients do not experience any side effects at all.

WHERE DOES IT GO IN MY BODY?

BOTOX Cosmetic® stays local to the muscle where it was injected. After the injection, BOTOX Cosmetic® is simply metabolized & broken down into natural byproducts within a few hours.

I AM PREGNANT AND/OR CURRENTLY BREAST FEEDING. CAN I GET BOTOX COSMETIC®?

No. It is recommended that you wait until you are finished breastfeeding to have your BOTOX Cosmetic® done. Although there is no clinical evidence to prove any harm to mother or baby - we prefer to be safe.