

## **BOTOX® Frequently Asked Questions**



### **What is BOTOX® and how does it work?**

BOTOX® is a medication that relaxes the muscles underneath the skin to create a smooth and refreshed appearance.

### **How long does the procedure take?**

Generally, after the consultation, the procedure takes 15 minutes or less.

### **How quickly does it work?**

It can take UP TO two weeks for it to take full effect and for patients to see the results.

### **How is it done?**

After the skin is cleaned, Botox® is injected with a very tiny needle – much smaller than those used to take your blood, etc. A delicate insulin-type needle is used. The amount of Botox® injected varies with the area being treated.

### **Does it hurt?**

Most patients say the injections feel similar to a little pinch, although everyone is different.

### **How long does BOTOX® last?**

BOTOX® is not permanent. It lasts 3-4 months on average but everyone is different. If you have your first three treatments promptly every three months (without waiting in between!), we expect that your next few treatments will start to last longer than three months. Patients who stay on a regular schedule can stabilize their treatments at approximately two times per year.

### **Is it going to be worse when it wears off?**

No! Your face will not look worse if you stop using BOTOX® or when it wears off. BOTOX® “stops / slows” the clock of aging. When you stop getting treatments, the “aging clock” resumes and you will simply return to where you started. If you use BOTOX® for a number of years and then stop – your muscles learn to relax. Therefore, you may end up looking a little better than when you originally started.

### **How much does it cost?**

The cost of treatment varies with each patient. At Amherst Laser and Skin Care Center, we charge per unit of Botox®. A unit is a very tiny measurement of the drug. The number of units that YOU will need can be estimated during a consultation. FOR EXAMPLE, for a typical female who is interested in having her glabellar area treated (the area between the eyebrows); the cost is approximately \$350-\$400 per treatment.

### **What are the side effects?**

Side effects are rare. There can be some minor bruising or a slight headache. Even more rarely nausea or “flu” like symptoms can occur. Excess muscle relaxation (drooping) can occur, but this resolves on its own. Most patients do not experience any side effects at all.

### **I am pregnant / am currently breast feeding. Can I get BOTOX®?**

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