

Intravesical Botox

Introduction

This leaflet contains information about Botox in the treatment of over active bladder. It tells you about how the medicine works, how it will be given and whether there are any side effects.

Why have I been given this leaflet?

The information in this leaflet will help you to remember what your doctor or specialist nurse has told you about this medicine and treatment. It will also help you to decide whether you want to go ahead with this treatment.

What is Botox and how does it work?

Botox is the brand name for botulinum toxin. This is produced naturally by certain bacteria. It causes paralysis in muscles, by blocking the nerve impulses reaching the muscle involved. It is reversible, but this takes several months.

Administered in small doses, the drug has been used successfully in the treatment of neurological conditions that cause muscle spasm.

It has also been used to reduce facial wrinkles, by paralysing the muscles that cause the wrinkles.

In overactive bladder, the symptoms are caused by sudden, uncontrolled contractions of the detrusor (bladder) muscle. Paralysis of the detrusor with Botox has been shown to decrease the symptoms associated with this condition. Botox is only used when a patient has tried bladder retraining and tablet treatment for overactive bladder without improvement in their symptoms.

The aim of the treatment is to reduce urinary symptoms. The effect of treatment can take up to 10 days to become apparent so some patients may not notice any immediate relief of their symptoms. Eventually, the effect of botox will wear off and you may notice a gradual return of symptoms. As all patients have a different experience it is impossible to predict how long after your treatment this will happen, however the treatment effect will commonly last 6-12 months. Retreatment is available for patients if required.

How should I take Botox?

Botox is administered by the medical staff in the theatre or clinic. It is injected into the detrusor muscle via a fine telescope, passed into your bladder. Twenty to thirty injections are placed over the entire surface of the bladder. The effects last for 6 -12 months, and the procedure can be repeated when the effects wear off.

When should Botox be avoided?

There are people with certain medical conditions who should not take Botox, or who should take it with extra care.

Information for Patients

These are:

Myasthenia Gravis deficiency	hereditary clotting factor
Eaton-Lambert syndrome	any bleeding disorder
Breast feeding	pregnancy
Haemophilia	

The manufacturers leaflet will explain this in more detail. Please tell your doctor if you have any of the conditions listed.

Are there any side effects?

Most medicines cause side effects. The leaflet provided by the manufacturer for Botox contains a list of the effects reported for this medicine. Everyone reacts differently to medicines. It is very unlikely that you will have all the listed effects. Any repeat treatments with Botox appear to be safe.

You may see some blood in the urine initially after treatment. Urine infections occur in some patients. These may be caused by the procedure itself, or maybe due to incomplete bladder emptying as the botox takes effect.

Botox can cause you to retain urine in the bladder. Allergic reactions, in the form of a rash, are rare but do occur occasionally. If you have an allergic reaction you will not be able to have any further Botox treatments.

Will Botox affect any other medicines?

If you take aminoglycoside antibiotics, (Gentamicin, Neomycin, Amikacin, streptomycin, netimicin, and tobramycin), tell your doctor or pharmacist and they will advise you.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist about all other medicines you take. This includes any medicines you have had prescribed by another doctor as well as medicines bought from a pharmacy or supermarket and any herbal remedies.

Whenever you are prescribed a new medicine, or want to buy a medicine e.g. from a pharmacy or supermarket, it is important that you tell the doctor or pharmacist about all the medicines that you take, including Botox. You should also tell your dentist.

Can I drink alcohol while I am taking Botox?

Yes, it is safe to drink alcohol while you are taking Botox, however large quantities of alcohol should be avoided.

Why do I need to give my consent?

Your agreement should be obtained, whenever possible, before prescribing any medicine. You will have the chance to ask questions and then you will be asked to confirm that you are still willing to take this medicine.

If you give your consent, but later decide that you don't want to take Botox after all, that is fine. Please tell your doctor. If you have any further questions please contact your doctor.

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If you require this information in another format, such as a different language, large print, braille or audio version please ask a member of staff or email patientexperience@uhb.nhs.uk.