

Botulinum Toxin Injections

Will I have Botulinum toxin Injections?

Please note that Botulinum toxin injections may not be appropriate for you.

At your first appointment, your doctor will recommend and discuss treatment options that are tailored to your unique needs. A recommendation may include toxin injections. If so, the benefits and risks of this option will be discussed with you. If you agree, you will be booked for a procedure appointment (45 minutes) at the next available date.

How does a Botulinum toxin injection work?

Botulinum toxin reduces muscle spasm or spasticity when injected directly into muscle. This should reduce the 'overactivity' of the muscle. You may feel the results as early as one week after injections. The effect of the toxin should last for up to 3-4 months.

What does a Botulinum toxin injection involve?

The Botulinum toxin is injected into your muscle with a fine needle and this procedure may feel uncomfortable. How many injections you receive depends on what condition you are being treated for and the size of the muscle. The doctor may use an electrical current to stimulate the muscle to check the needle is in the correct position. The doctor may also use ultrasound to 'see' the muscles and guide the procedure.

Are there any side effects?

Botulinum toxin has been used safely for a number of years.

The doctor will discuss possible side-effects at your appointment. You may feel soreness at the site of injection, which you can treat with an ice pack and/or taking some pain relief (such as paracetamol).

You may also feel, but this is less likely:

- > Weakness in the muscles that were injected. If this occurs it may last for the duration of the toxin effect (3-4 months)
- > Flu-like symptoms. If this occurs it will be for a short duration.

Who to contact if I'm concerned?

If the side effects continue or you are worried about your response to the injections, please contact the clinic on (08) 8404 2269 and ask to speak to the doctor who gave you the injection.

If it is an emergency, go to the closest Emergency Department.

Your Botox procedure appointment

At the start of your appointment, your physiotherapist assesses your limb movement. If you are able to walk and are scheduled for injections in your leg, you may also be taken down to the Gait Lab for a short walking assessment.

Following assessment, the goals for the injection(s) are agreed with you and the doctor administers the injection(s).



What is the cost?

For the injection(s) received at your appointment, you will be sent an invoice from the Pharmacy at Flinders Medical Centre. There is no payment required at the clinic appointment.

The current cost (as at August 2019) resulting from each injection appointment is:

- > Non-Concession card holders: \$40.30
- > Concession card holders: \$6.50

Any cost changes will be communicated to you, before your injection appointment.

When will I come back?

You will be booked for a review appointment (30 minutes) between 6-8 weeks after your injection(s). At this appointment, your therapist assesses your progress and the doctor asks questions about your response to the injection(s). This will help in developing any further treatment plan.

Will I have further treatment after my injections?

We may recommend that you participate in physiotherapy and/or occupational therapy after your injections. We would discuss options to participate when developing your further treatment plan with you at your review appointment.

Where to come?

Please come to the Spasticity Clinic (address below) where you had your first appointment. The Spasticity Clinic fact sheet has further directions and maps.

Any questions?

If you have any questions about your booking or would like more information, please contact us on (08) 8404 2269.

For more information

4th Generation Clinics
Rehabilitation and Palliative Care Building
Flinders Medical Centre
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