

## **Frequently Asked Questions About Botox / Dysport (pronounced diss-port)**

*Below are commonly asked questions about Botox/Dysport. If you are asked a question and are unsure of the answer, please call Evolutions at 687-0212 or e-mail Brian Perkins at [brian@evolutionsmedicalspa.com](mailto:brian@evolutionsmedicalspa.com). We will answer your question as soon as possible.*

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### **What is Botox? What is Dysport?**

Botox and Dysport (medically known as botulinum toxin type A) are both a natural, purified protein used to treat overactive muscles and sweat glands. Botox was first used in the late 1980's to treat optic muscle disorders such as "lazy eye." Dysport has been used to treat similar muscle disorders in the United Kingdom since 1990.

Botox is now FDA-approved to treat wrinkles and hyperhidrosis (excessive sweating). Dysport is also FDA-approved for the treatment of wrinkles.

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### **How are Botox and Dysport similar and different?**

- Both Dysport and Botox are forms of botulinum toxin type A
  - Both products have been used in Europe for almost 20 years to treat certain types of muscle disorders.
  - Botox received FDA approval for cosmetic use in the United States in 2002. Dysport received FDA approval in April of 2009.
  - Both products are safe and effective in the treatment of wrinkles on the face
  - Dysport is a smaller molecule, so the units are different than Botox (i.e., 20 units of Botox equal 50 units of Dysport)
  - Dysport works faster (in only 1-3 days vs. 4-7 for Botox) and has FDA approval for a four month duration (vs. 3-4 months for Botox).
  - Dysport is a better value per unit than Botox
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### **Are Botox and Dysport safe?**

Absolutely, as long as you receive true Botox (made exclusively by Allergan Inc) or Dysport (made by Ipsen Group, distributed in the U.S. by Medicis Inc) and have it administered by a well-trained clinician. In fact, because Botox is such a safe, quick (the procedure usually takes only 10-15 minutes), easy, effective, and relatively affordable treatment, it is now easily the most popular medical cosmetic procedure in the country. According to the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, in 2008 there were over 5 million Botox procedures performed in the United States alone. That is almost 13,700 procedures every day, or roughly 1 every 6.3 seconds!

Though Dysport is a new treatment in the U.S., given its success in Europe over the last 20 years, it will likely be as popular as Botox within a short period of time.

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### **How do Botox and Dysport work to soften frown lines and improve wrinkles?**

Botox and Dysport treat overactive muscles by blocking the signals that tell those muscles to contract. This can be done partially or totally, depending on the desired effect. The effects of Botox and Dysport are temporary and typically last between 3-4 months.

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### **Are there any side effects?**

Typically not, though the most common side effect is minor bruising in the treated area.

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### **Are Botox and Dysport effective?**

Yes, they are highly effective treatments, both to smooth wrinkles and to drastically reduce (typically by 90% or more) excessive sweating.



### **I don't want to look "frozen." Will I still be able to make expressions?**

If your Botox/Dysport treatment is administered properly by a highly-trained clinician, you will still be able to make expressions. Depending on the area treated, it may be appropriate to only weaken the muscle movement. You can discuss this with your clinician prior to treatment.

The vast majority of clients are extremely happy with the results of a Botox/Dysport treatment. The most common comment made by friends and family of clients after receiving Botox/Dysport is that they appear to be more "rested."

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### **How are Botox and Dysport administered? How much Botox or Dysport will I need?**

Botox and Dysport are both injected with a small needle in tiny amounts to specific areas. They are usually sold to clients by the unit. However, it is important to note that the two are measured differently (much like feet vs. meters). This difference is accounted for in the pricing.

The number of units necessary for an effective treatment varies both by the individual and the area treated. Men usually need a few more units than women to achieve the same effect. Dr. Perkins and his nurses commonly use 20-24 units of Botox (50-60 units of Dysport) for the glabellar region (the frown lines), 10-14 units of Botox (25-35 units of Dysport) for the forehead, and 10-14 units of (25-35 units of Dysport) for the peri-orbital area (“crow’s feet”).

***For treatments at OVIS, there is a 20 unit minimum for Botox / 50 unit minimum for Dysport***

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### **How long do the effects of Botox and Dysport last?**

For wrinkle treatments, the effects of Botox and Dysport typically last 3-4 months. However, with repeated treatments, the effects may last up to 6 months. When treating excessive sweating, results normally last 6 or more months.

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### **What is the difference between Botox/Dysport and dermal fillers (such as Restylane®, Juvederm®, and Radiesse®)?**

Though both are commonly used to treat wrinkles, Botox and Dysport treat the cause of the wrinkle (the overactive muscle) whereas dermal fillers are used to treat the symptom (the wrinkle itself). Oftentimes both Botox/Dysport and dermal fillers can be used in conjunction with each other to improve the overall result.

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### **How important is the skill level of the clinician in receiving an effective Botox/Dysport treatment?**

The skill level of the administering clinician is very important. There is an artistic element involved with Botox and Dysport injections in order to ensure that the client achieves effective wrinkle reduction while still maintaining a natural look. Also, if a clinician is not highly-trained, they may need to inject more Botox or Dysport to get the same effect.

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

Prices vary depending on number of units used and which clinician is performing the treatment. See the pricelist for more details.

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