

Dysport®

Dysport is an FDA-approved injection treatment that reduces the appearances of fine lines and wrinkles by relaxing facial muscles on the forehead. Similar to BOTOX® Cosmetic, Dysport is injected directly into the site of wrinkles to prevent the underlying muscles from contracting. However, Dysport can diffuse muscles one to three centimeters from the injection point, while Botox can only reach as far as one centimeter, allowing for results that reach further areas with just a single injection.

Dysport was developed in Europe during the early 1990s, and has been used successfully for several years. It has also been used in the US under the name Reloxin, but was mandated to be FDA approved under its original name, Dysport. In April 2009, Dysport was approved by the FDA for use in the US and is expected to rival Botox, the most popular cosmetic procedure, with its convenience and long-lasting results.

In addition to treating fine lines and wrinkles, Dysport can also be used to relieve excessive underarm sweating, and treat the symptoms of cervical dystonia, such as neck pain and abnormal head position.

Am I a good candidate for Dysport?

As we age, skin loses its elasticity and the creases in our face turn into permanent lines and wrinkles. This is most common on the forehead and around the eyes and mouth, which are where muscles that help us smile and frown are located. Dysport immobilizes these muscles to restore a more youthful expression to the face, and actually trains the muscles to contract less often after several treatments.

Dysport injections are ideal for nearly any patient who wishes to reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles on the face and restore a younger and more refreshed appearance. Both men and women can benefit from this procedure and experience the physical and emotional effects of an improved appearance.

What do Dysport injections consist of?

Dysport is made from a protein that is extracted from the bacterium *Clostridium botulinum*, the same protein used in Botox injections. This substance was originally used to control motor disorders and involuntary muscle spasms by immobilizing the targeted muscles.

The results of the Dysport injection are visible within one to seven days after treatment, with most patients seeing results on day three. With less protein than Botox, Dysport is broken down more slowly by the body, and can provide results that last as long as 13 months.

How are Dysport injections administered?

The Dysport injections are administered directly into the facial muscles that cause frown lines and other wrinkles. For most patients, the injection is placed between the eyebrows to immobilize facial muscles in the forehead that cause the unattractive frown lines.

These injections are generally painless and do not require anesthesia, although a numbing agent may be used to help minimize any discomfort from the injection for patients who are anxious about the procedure. Treatment sessions usually take less than 15 minutes, and can be administered at six week intervals. Most patients achieve their desired results within three to five injections.

What are the results of Dysport treatment?

After Dysport injections, patients will notice their facial muscles gradually relaxing over the next few days as the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles diminish. With repeated treatment, results can last up to 13 months and are eventually required less frequently, as the facial muscles become trained to avoid contracting.

Are Dysport injections safe?

Although Dysport is considered safe for most patients, there are certain risks associated with any kind of procedure. Some of these risks may include an allergic reaction or a condition known as ptosis, which involves droopiness of the eyelid. Some patients may experience mild side effects such as soreness and bruising at the injection site, along with a headache for several hours after treatment. These side effects will go away on their own and can also be relieved with mild painkillers.

Patients who are pregnant or breastfeeding, or have a neuromuscular disease, should not undergo this treatment.

To learn more about Dysport injections, please call us today to speak with one of our doctors or schedule a consultation and find out you can benefit from this procedure.