

Botulinum Toxin injections in the Pain Clinic (Botox/Xeomin trade names)

What is Botulinum Toxin? (Botox/Xeomin trade names)

Botulinum Toxin is a toxin produced by *clostridium botulinum* bacteria (type A).

The toxin acts on the junctions between the nerves and muscles, preventing the release of one of the chemical messengers which would normally cause the muscle to contract. If the messenger is blocked, this can help to reduce some of the abnormal muscle contractions.

What is it used for?

Relief of muscle spasms, eg in the back or neck.

How will the medicine be given?

It will be injected into the muscle which is causing pain, and injections may be given into more than one place.

Effects from the injection are usually seen within a few days, although they will normally peak at one to two weeks after treatment.

If necessary treatments may be repeated after a few months.

Are there any side effects?

As with any treatment there is the chance you may experience some form of side effect.

Some of the possible symptoms may include:

- mild soreness at the injection site
- mild difficulty in speaking
- weakness in the neck.

Less common side effects can be:

- general weakness
- feeling unwell
- drowsiness.

Any questions?

If you have any questions please ask one of the staff in the Pain Clinic:
01872 252095

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01872 252690