

More Choices for Our Genesis Clients

You may have heard that there is now another, FDA-approved, wrinkle-reduction, prescription injection on the market in addition to Botox. This is good news, but may also be confusing news, so here is the scoop.

The new injection is called Dysport and was FDA approved in the USA in Spring, 2009, although it has a history of use in other countries since 1991. Dysport and Botox are very similar compounds. They are both highly purified forms of Clostridium botulinum type A. During the purification process, the neurotoxin (the botulinum) is combined with several proteins. In both cases, one of those proteins is human albumin, so anyone who is allergic to human albumin should not receive either medication. Dysport is also combined with lactose, so anyone who is allergic to lactose should not receive Dysport. The other important difference is that, because a few proteins are different, Dysport can disperse further in the muscles into which it is injected.

Why is this important? Some clients have a hard time getting the effects they are wanting with Botox. For example, men with very large foreheads need many injections and many units of Botox. Some women whose crows' feet are very advanced (which is easy with this Colorado sunshine!) also have a hard time getting enough Botox to get the effect they would like. In cases such as these, Dysport may be a good alternative. With fewer injections, the neurotoxin will spread and create a more desirable effect throughout the muscle.

There is a downside, though. The increased dispersion of Dysport also means there is an increased risk of side effects such as drooping eyebrows or eyelids. These are temporary and can sometimes be "fixed" with additional injections. However, sometimes, they cannot be "fixed" and a client has to wait several weeks or even months until the drooping wears off. This is certainly always a risk with Botox, also, but is slightly greater with Dysport because of the increased dispersion of the product.

In most cases, the cost will be about the same for an individual client to have either product. The units are not interchangeable, which is confusing. For example, in the area in between the eyebrows (the glabella), a standard dose for most women (men take more) is 20 - 22 Units of Botox and 50 Units of Dysport.

If you would like to discuss this further, please make an appointment with either Lisa Jenks, MD, Anne Bode, MD or Kerrie Kim, RN. All of them are happy to talk with you about which product is best for you! Call Genesis today at 719-579-6890.