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In Belfast, Botox is a purified protein made from *Clostridium botulinum* bacterium or the type A botulinum toxin. Botox injections became popular in the 1980s when it was used to treat uncontrollable blinking, facial muscle twitches, crossed eyes, severe underarm sweating and some other medical conditions. In the 1990s, the cosmetic use of Botox was approved by the FDA, so that it could be used to treat fine lines and wrinkles.

The treatment procedure

In Belfast, Botox is injected into the area to be treated with fine needles. It blocks the nerve signals in the area. For example, while treating muscle twitches, it numbs the muscles, preventing them from twitching. Wrinkles are usually caused by muscle contractions. When nerve signals are blocked, the muscles stop contracting, resulting in a smoothing of the wrinkles. While anesthesia is not mandatory for this brief procedure, some physicians do give it to eliminate any discomfort to the patient. To avoid bruising, the doctors recommend avoiding anti-inflammatory medication for at least two weeks before the procedure.

Is Botox comparable to a facelift?

Believed to be better than a facelift in Belfast, Botox is successfully being used to bring on a much younger appearance for thousands of people. However, age is an influencing factor when considering the results. Those in their thirties and showing signs of aging in the forehead and eye area due to a lack of exposure to the sun, benefit from Botox which can eliminate the crow's feet and other signs of aging without having to go for a facelift surgery. People in their forties usually develop laugh lines and sagging cheeks and jowls. Botox is effective in correcting these to result in a much younger looking face. In short, Botox is a quick facelift without the hassles of surgery.

Which areas of the skin can Botox treat?

In Belfast, Botox is used to treat various skin areas including the forehead, around the eyes, the eyelids, armpits and neck and shoulder areas as follows:

• In the forehead area, it removes frown lines and wrinkles between the eyes and above the nose area by reducing the muscle activity, thereby reducing wrinkles.

• Around the eyes, it removes fine lines or crow's feet

• In the eyelids, Botox treats *blepharospasm* or excessive blinking which hinders various activities such as reading and driving on a daily basis

• Some people suffer from severe sweating in the underarms and Botox helps treat this. Botox is injected into the armpit area to paralyze the muscles, preventing the sweat glands from sweating. This has to be repeated once in six months and requires three treatments before the problem is controlled

• In the neck and shoulder areas, involuntary muscle spasms can be treated with Botox.

Performed by a qualified and trained medical professional, Botox in Belfast is a non-surgical procedure that can give you consistent results, helping you get rid of frown lines, forehead creases,

crow's feet, neck bands and other wrinkles.

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