



Facial Spasms and Botulinum Toxin treatment

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Introduction

The muscles of facial expression and the eyelid are normally under our voluntary control. Facial spasm is a condition in which these muscles function abnormally and are no longer under the direct control of the brain. It can affect the entire face, or just the area around the eyes.

Types of Spasms

Benign Essential Blepharospasm (BEB) occurs due to uncontrolled nerve signals in the brain that stimulates the eyelid muscles. Frequent squeezing of the eyelids causes visual interruptions in the patient's day to day activities. *Hemifacial spasm (HFS)* is commonly caused by an irritation of facial nerve on one side, leading to involuntary spasms on one half of the face. *Myokimia* is a more localized form of spasm that typically involves a single eyelid or group of muscles around the eye.

Treatment Options

- 1) Oral medications (Neurologist)
- 2) Botulinum toxin injection (BOTOX)
- 3) Neurosurgery (Hemifacial spasm)
- 4) Myectomy surgery (BEB)



Is the treatment permanent?

Botulinum toxin injection procedure is performed as an out-patient procedure, and takes 10 minutes. Application of local anesthesia cream an hour before the procedure makes it almost painless. The effect starts, within a week, and can last for 2-4 months. Botulinum toxin only controls the spasm, and does not treat it. Therefore, repeated injections are required for continued effect. Some patients may be non-responsive to Botox, and would need surgical correction of spasm.

How to Book an appointment for Botox Injection?

Botox injections are given every Thursday. The best way to book an appointment is by writing an email to milind@drmilindnaik.com. Mention your medical record number, and the suggested date you wish to visit. Alternatively, send an SMS to +919848086245 with medical record number and date of visit, to book an appointment.