A Double Blinded, Placebo Controlled Study Of Botox For the Treatment of Subjects with Chin Rhytids

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Background: Botox has been used primarily for treating rhytids of the upper face. Its use in the lower part of the face has been reported by several authors but there is a relative scarcity of information regarding the use of Botox in the chin and even fewer well controlled studies in this area. This study reports the findings from a placebo controlled trial of Botox for the treatment of chin rhytids.

Objective: To determine whether Botox would improve chin rhytids.

Methods: A double blinded, placebo study utilizing injections of Botox into one half of the chin and saline into the other half. Photography as well as objective ratings were used to rate the changes due to the injections.

Results: Of the twenty patients treated, 11 were satisfied with the results, 7 patients were not satisfied with their results, 1 was not sure whether or not they were satisfied, 1 was very unsatisfied with her results and 1 was lost to follow up.

It is thought that lack of patient satisfaction resulted from the unilateral nature of the treatment which resulted in asymmetric outcomes as well as from selecting patients based on their static rhytid index instead of their dynamic wrinkle assessment.

Conclusions: Botox cosmetic is a good treatment for moderate rhytids of the mentalis for patients that exhibit significant dynamic wrinkles at maximal muscle contraction. It is predicted that treatment of both sides of the mentalis will greatly increase patient satisfaction compared with the results obtained in this study.

In addition, better patient selection (selecting those patients with significant dynamic chin rhytids) will also increase patient satisfaction.

Botox cosmetic seems to hold promise for treatment of chin wrinkles in selected patients.

References