

Wrinkle Treatments |

Botox—Safe & Effective

Botox was approved by the FDA in 2002 for the treatment of facial wrinkles (specifically the “frown lines” between the eyebrows) and is now also approved for the treatment of underarm sweating and some severe neurological disorders. Medications such as Botox are tested rigorously for years to document safety and efficacy before they can be FDA approved. Millions of patients have been treated with Botox without any serious side effects.

Despite the product’s overwhelming success and acceptance, the media hasn’t stopped creating “news” by reporting on Botox stories with negative spin. What they typically don’t include when documenting side effects, however, is that they occurred when Botox was used in huge amounts, injected inappropriately by an inexperienced user, or in laboratory animals.

At the Gateway Aesthetic Institute & Laser Center, we have used Botox on many people every day with tremendous satisfaction rates.

Botox works by relaxing the facial muscles that cause expression lines. It must only be injected by an experienced

professional who is familiar with facial anatomy so that it is not injected into the wrong muscle. It looks the most natural if it is used in the correct amount to simply relax the muscle and not completely paralyze it. That way, you can still have normal facial expressions, but the lines and wrinkles are softened. The treatment usually has to be repeated 3-4 times a year to maintain your results.

Another less-known but successful use of Botox is for excessive sweating under the arms, a problem unrelated to ambient temperature that can’t be well controlled with antiperspirants. Injecting Botox can decrease the nerve signals to the sweat glands and thereby decrease or eliminate sweating for up to 6 months (and even longer in some people). It is a quick and easy procedure with a very high rate of satisfaction.



Botox combined with laser treatment on forehead