

Fact Sheet

Wrinkle Treatments



Wrinkle Prevention Injections

What are they?

They are a series of small injections of a muscle relaxing solution into individual muscles in your area of concern (area containing wrinkles), preventing them from making unnecessary and undesirable facial expressions and further creasing the skin. They will not radically change your appearance or make you look as though you've had a facelift and they will not 'freeze' facial expressions – they just soften the areas of concern and make you appear younger and more refreshed.

What are wrinkles?

Wrinkles are simply lines and creases. They are caused by a number of factors including heredity, ageing (due to the depletion of collagen and elastin), expressions, smoking and general lifestyle habits (such as working in the sun). When we are young, expression wrinkles disappear when we relax our muscles. However, as we age and continually contract our facial muscles, we establish permanent lines in our face as the collagen is squeezed out of the base of the creases.

Which areas can be treated?

Areas on the face, such as the frown lines between the eyes (worry or anger lines), the forehead lines and crow's feet, are the most common areas treated. Puckering lines above the top lip, the 'bunny lines' at the top of the nose as well as many areas in the lower face to prevent age creases and folds can also be treated.

When should I begin having wrinkle prevention injections?

Ideally, wrinkle prevention injections should be considered in your late twenties or early thirties – before the signs of ageing begin to show and you develop permanent, deep lines on your face. This is because the injections prevent future wrinkles, helping you maintain a youthful appearance. But it is never too late to start and prevent further signs of ageing.

Are wrinkle prevention injections safe?

They are very safe. They have been used by doctors for more than 30 years in millions of people around the world. It is one of the most studied and researched

procedures and has no long-term side effects. The active wrinkle prevention ingredient is not absorbed or passed through the blood and is no longer present or active in the body an hour after injection. The Facial Rejuvenation Clinic is the highest user of wrinkle prevention injections in Sydney and our experienced clinicians are trained to provide optimum results.

How does it work?

Wrinkle prevention injections are carefully placed in the muscles that are causing the skin to wrinkle. This deactivates a protein in the nerve endings that makes a nerve-transmitter chemical that allows the muscles to work. This, in turn, prevents the nerves from moving the muscle, therefore smoothing the overlying skin. The remaining facial muscles keep contracting as per usual so that normal and more desirable facial expressions are unaffected.

What happens during the procedure?

This is a quick and simple procedure that is relatively pain-free. Even those afraid of needles are surprised at the ease of treatment. Ice is used to numb each spot prior to injection and then an extremely fine needle is used to make minute injections of the wrinkle prevention solution into the targeted muscles. You will experience only brief discomfort and so anaesthetic is not needed.

How long does the procedure take?

10-15 minutes per session, depending on the size and number of areas treated. Most people require wrinkle prevention injections 3 times a year for best ongoing results.

How long will my recovery be and what can I expect?

Recovery is immediate. There may be some redness and faint needle-prick marks that usually disappear within a few minutes. Ladies can reapply make-up immediately. Rarely, there is slight bruising that will last for a few days, but make-up will easily mask this.

When will I start to see results?

You will not see the results of the procedure until 3-7 days after injection. This is because it takes time for →

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the targeted nerve endings to become 'deactivated'. If you have had previous wrinkle injections, then you may see a quicker onset of muscle relaxation, often in 1-2 days. However, if this is the first time you have had the procedure, or have left it too long between treatments, it can take 3-4 days to notice slight muscle relaxation, or up to 10 days to see the full results. The Facial Rejuvenation Clinic invites you back to review the results after 1-2 weeks.

Will this treatment affect my muscles and nerves in the long-term?

There is no direct affect at any time on the muscle. It is only the proteins within the nerve endings that are destroyed – but they start to rebuild immediately. It generally takes 3-4 months to build a new batch of nerve proteins to a point where the nerve regains its normal function.

How long do the results last?

The length of time it takes the nerve endings to regain enough protein to operate the nerves at full capacity is individual – usually 4-6 months. Over time (about 2-3 years), the results will last longer due to the nerve proteins becoming slower at rebuilding. In areas where you have created a lot expression through involuntary overuse of your facial muscles (such as the forehead and frown lines) you can find that, even if you discontinue wrinkle prevention injections after about 5 years, your muscle memory will have lessened to the point where you no longer create those undesirable expressions.

Can wrinkle prevention injections be combined with other procedures?

They are often used in combination with dermal fillers, especially where deep creases have already formed, to prolong their life under the skin. Also, the effects of IPL (Intense Pulsed Light) skin rejuvenation and Fraxel skin repair are enhanced by wrinkle prevention injections, preventing further skin creasing.

How much does it cost?

The cost of wrinkle prevention injections is determined by the number of units required to achieve your desired result. At The Facial Rejuvenation Clinic, the cost is \$15 per unit. As each person is unique and their needs are varied, the true cost can't be given over the phone. A consultation is required with someone with a good understanding of the facial anatomy – how your particular facial muscles move and their size and strength – to work out the number of units you will need. Usually, bigger muscles require about 20 units. We can tailor your treatment to suit your budget, but it's worth noting that the fewer the units, the less effective your results will be. If you desire, you can be treated straight after your consultation.



BEFORE

AFTER

The images above show examples of wrinkle prevention injection treatment for crow's feet.

Call us on **1300 88 99 35** to arrange a free, private consultation with one of our highly trained medical clinicians experienced in all skin conditions. During this consultation we will discuss in detail the treatment program best suited to your skin concern and budget.

Due to Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) regulations, all clinics are prevented from advertising this treatment by brand name in public documents. For more information about the brand we use, please call us.

www.facialrejuvenation.com.au

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