

Anti-Wrinkle Injections

Softening the appearance of expression-related lines.

Anti-wrinkle injections are a cosmetic medical treatment used after consultation to soften the appearance of selected expression-related lines. The treatment involves prescription-only medicines (Schedule 4) prescribed by a registered medical practitioner following an in-person consultation. Suitability, dosing and expected effect are determined after assessing your facial anatomy, medical history and goals.

WHAT IT TREATS

Anti-wrinkle injections may be considered for selected dynamic lines caused by repeated facial movement — most commonly around the frown, forehead and outer eye area (crow's feet). In carefully assessed patients they may also be used to support facial balance, address jaw or neck muscle concerns, or manage excessive sweating (hyperhidrosis). The clinical aim is usually to soften movement rather than freeze expression.

HOW IT WORKS

A small dose of muscle relaxant medicine is placed into selected facial muscles using a fine needle. The medicine temporarily reduces communication between nerves and muscles, allowing the treated muscle to relax and the overlying lines to soften over the following days. The effect is temporary; duration varies between individuals based on anatomy, muscle strength, dose, metabolism and treatment history.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING TREATMENT

Your clinician will assess facial movement, symmetry, relevant medical history and your areas of concern. If treatment is suitable and you have completed informed consent, small injection points are cleaned and marked. A fine needle is used to place tiny amounts of medicine into selected muscles. The injection procedure itself is usually brief; the consultation and consent process is the substantive part.

DOWNTIME AND RECOVERY

Most patients resume low-intensity activity immediately. Pinpoint redness, mild swelling or tenderness at injection sites typically settle quickly. Bruising can occur and may persist several days. The result is not immediate — effect develops gradually over days, so any early asymmetry or unevenness may settle as the treatment takes effect.

RISKS AND COMPLICATIONS

Common side effects. Pinpoint redness, mild swelling, tenderness, bruising, headache, or a temporary heavy or tight sensation in the treated area. Some patients notice temporary asymmetry while the effect develops. The degree of movement reduction may be more or less than expected, and review or top-up may be recommended.

RARE / SERIOUS RISKS — MATERIAL RISKS

Please read carefully — these form part of your informed consent.

Unintended muscle weakness, eyelid or brow droop (ptosis), smile or lip asymmetry, infection at an injection site, allergic reaction or an unsatisfactory cosmetic outcome are uncommon but recognised. Very rarely, the medicine may produce more distant effects involving swallowing, speaking or breathing — these require urgent medical attention. While uncommon, all of these risks form part of informed consent and must be understood before treatment.

PRE-TREATMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Provide a complete medical history, including pregnancy status, breastfeeding, neurological conditions, allergies, previous cosmetic treatments and all medications and supplements. If advised, avoid alcohol and non-essential blood-thinning supplements in the days before treatment. Do not book treatment immediately before a major event — bruising and effect timing are both variable.

POST-TREATMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Do not rub or massage the treated areas unless specifically instructed. Avoid strenuous exercise, facial treatments, excessive heat and heavy alcohol for the period your clinician advises. Remain upright if instructed and follow any area-specific aftercare. Attend a review appointment if recommended — usually after the full effect has developed (around two weeks).

EXPECTED RESULTS AND TIMELINE

Early effect may begin within several days; full effect is usually assessed at around two weeks. The result is temporary, commonly lasting several months, though duration varies. Maintenance timing depends on individual response, treatment goals and clinician review.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Treatment may not be suitable if you are pregnant or breastfeeding, have active infection at the injection site, have a known allergy or previous significant reaction to muscle-relaxant medicines, have certain neuromuscular disorders (such as myasthenia gravis or Eaton-Lambert syndrome), or take medications that may interact. Final suitability is confirmed during consultation.

QUESTIONS BEFORE CONSENT

If anything in this document is unclear, please ask before signing your consent form.

Specific product names, doses and costs are discussed at your individual consultation, not in this written information.

ALTERNATIVES

Anti-wrinkle injections are one of several pathways for managing the appearance of dynamic lines. Alternatives may include topical skincare and active ingredients, energy-based treatments (such as BBL, HALO or microneedling), other cosmetic medical procedures, or — for many patients — no treatment at all. Your clinician will discuss whether an alternative or a combined plan may suit your goals and skin better.

REFLECTION PERIOD & CONSENT

For new patients, NovaLux provides a reflection period between your consultation and your first treatment so that you have time to consider the information, weigh alternatives and arrive at an informed decision without pressure. The length of this reflection period is discussed at consultation and aligned with AHPRA's cosmetic procedure guidelines.

PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLBEING

Cosmetic medical treatments can affect, and be affected by, how you feel about your appearance. As part of your assessment your clinician may discuss your reasons for seeking treatment and your expectations. If concerns are identified that suggest a different pathway would serve you better — including independent psychological support — this will be raised openly and respectfully. You can also raise this yourself at any point in your care.

Disclaimer: This document provides general information and does not replace a formal medical consultation. Please discuss any questions with your treating practitioner prior to signing your consent form. The specific prescription medicines used in this treatment are not named in public-facing materials under Australian TGA advertising regulations and AHPRA guidelines (effective 2 September 2025). This document is clinical patient information provided after consultation, not advertising. Product names, doses and costs are discussed at your individual consultation.

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