

milk to use for 24-48 hours following the injection. For further information, please see our separate leaflet on the use of botulinum toxin in breastfeeding & pregnancy.

What should I expect when I attend the clinic?

You will be seen by a nurse or healthcare assistant followed by a doctor working with the consultant ophthalmologist. If the treatment is suitable for you, you will be asked to read and sign a consent form and will usually receive the treatment on the same day. You should expect to be in the clinic for the whole morning or afternoon.

What is the treatment procedure?

You will be given local anaesthetic drops to numb your eye, but you might still experience some discomfort when the injection is given. Three small injections are given into the lower lid, just below the lid edge.

What happens after the injection?

You will be able to go home after the injection. You may feel an ache in the



injected area for which you can take a painkiller as needed.

When should I expect to see results from the treatment?

Results are usually noticed about two days after the injection is given.

How long do results last?

This can vary, but results can last up to four months.

What are the possible side effects?

With any injection in or around the eye it is possible to suffer a serious side effect affecting the eye or vision but this is extremely rare.

Nearly all side effects are temporary and recover with time. Potential side effects are as follows:

- out turning of the lower lid (ectropion).
- drooping of the lower lid, cheek or mouth.
- temporary double vision – you should not drive while you have double vision. It is very important that you discuss this with the doctor before treatment if this is of particular concern to you (see DVLA website: [double vision and driving](#)).
- slight bruising of the eyelid.

When do I return to the clinic?

We will make an appointment for you to return to the clinic three to four months after your treatment.

Other important information

Botulinum toxin has been used for treating eye conditions at Moorfields since 1982 and for entropion since 1988. Although Botulinum toxin was originally introduced for the treatment of squint in 1979 (with our clinics successfully treating patients since 1982), the manufacturers have never applied for a drug product licence. We use it on a “named patient” basis, and records are kept of all injections and patient details. This is one of many examples of a drug with a product licence for one condition being used safely and successfully for another condition.

If you have any reason to believe that you may be a carrier of hepatitis or the HIV virus, please make sure that you tell the nurse or doctor who sees you in the clinic. The information is kept confidential, but it is essential that we are informed.

If you are not clear about any part of this treatment or have any questions, please ask the doctor to explain further. Please keep this leaflet for future reference.

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Moorfields Direct telephone helpline

Phone: 020 7566 2345
Monday-Friday, 8.30am-9pm
Saturday, 9am-5pm
Information and advice on eye conditions and treatments from experienced ophthalmic-trained nurses.

Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)

Phone: 020 7566 2324/ 020 7566 2325
Email: moorfields.pals@nhs.net
Moorfields' PALS team provides confidential advice and support to help you with any concerns you may have about the care we provide, guiding you through the different services available at Moorfields. The PALS team can also advise you on how to make a complaint.

Your right to treatment within 18 weeks

Under the NHS constitution, all patients have the right to begin consultant-led treatment within 18 weeks of being referred by their GP. Moorfields is committed to fulfilling this right, but if you feel that we have failed to do so, please contact our patient advice and liaison service (PALS) who will be able to advise you further (see above). For more information about your rights under the NHS constitution, visit www.nhs.uk/choiceinthenhs

