

## BOTULINUM TOXIN POLICY TO INCLUDE:

Blepharospasm in adults, Hemi facial spasm in adults, spasmodic torticollis (cervical dystonia), focal spasticity treatment of dynamic equinus foot deformity, focal spasticity treatment in paediatric cerebral palsy, severe hyperhidrosis of the axillae & gastroparesis.

### Commissioning Policy Introduction

Botulinum Toxin A is a powerful neurotoxin which is used medically to relax muscles and for certain conditions there are recognised benefits to patients. This document summarises the commissioning status of Botulinum Toxin A for specific medical conditions.

Botulinum Toxin treatment will not be available for the treatment of facial ageing or excessive wrinkles.

NICE clinical guidelines are recommendations by NICE on the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions within the NHS. They are based on best available evidence. NHS organisations are entitled to take decisions which do not follow Guidance (other than NICE TAs) if they have a good reason to do so. The availability of resources and competing priorities can be a good reason.

## Appendix 1

### MHRA Drug safety Update

Botulinum toxin products: rare but serious risk

Products that contain botulinum toxin are associated with the risk of serious adverse reactions due to distant spread of toxin. Recommendations include:

- ❖ Only physicians with appropriate experience (including use of the required equipment) should administer products that contain botulinum toxin.
- ❖ Patients or caregivers should be informed about the risk of spread of toxin, and should be advised to seek immediate medical care if problems with swallowing or speech develop, or if respiratory symptoms arise.
- ❖ Units of botulinum toxin are not interchangeable from one product to another.
- ❖ Recommended administration techniques and specific dosing guidance (including the recommendation to use minimum effective dose and titrate according to individual need) should be followed.

#### References

MHRA Drug safety Update October 2007; Vol 1, Issue 3:  
10<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Safetyinformation?DrugSafetyUpdate/CON079276>Please note licence indications for individual products for specific

Reference:	Policy Name	Review Date	Version
BSW-CP044	Botulinum Toxin Policy	March 2021	3

Indication	Commissioning Status	Criteria (Conditions)/Notes
<p><b><u>Blepharospasm in adults</u></b></p> <p>(facial dystonia, muscles around the eyes can cause uncontrolled blinking, lid spasm.</p>	<p>Prior Approval with evidence of functional or visual impairment.</p>	<p>Funding will not be approved for treatment periods less than 4 monthly.</p>
<p><b><u>Hemi facial spasm in adults</u></b></p> <p>(Movement disorder causing muscles on the side of the face to contract uncontrollably).</p>	<p>Prior Approval with evidence of functional or visual impairment.</p>	<p>Funding will not be approved for treatment periods less than 4 monthly.</p>
<p><b><u>Spasmodic torticollis (cervical dystonia)</u></b></p> <p>(Muscles in the neck contract involuntarily)</p>	<p>Indication routinely funded Criteria Based Access</p>	
<p><b><u>Focal Spasticity</u></b></p> <p>treatment of dynamic equinus foot deformity due to spasticity in paediatric cerebral palsy patients</p>	<p>Indication routinely funded</p>	
<p><b><u>Focal Spasticity</u></b></p> <p>treatment in paediatric cerebral palsy upper limb (as per NICE CG 145)</p>	<p>Indication routinely funded</p>	
<p><b><u>Severe hyperhidrosis of the axillae</u></b></p>	<p>Not routinely commissioned</p>	
<p><b><u>Gastroparesis</u></b></p>	<p>Not routinely commissioned</p>	