

NOTES FROM YOUR

# PLASTIC SURGEON

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## BOTOX IS SAFE

To see if receiving Botox injections over a period of years is safe, the doctors who first discovered its wrinkle-diminishing benefits conducted a review. Ophthalmologist Jean Carruthers and dermatologist Alastair Carruthers reviewed the charts of 50 patients who each had 10-20 treatments over 3-9 years. Adverse effects, primarily drooping eyelids and eyebrows, occurred in only one percent of treatments. Complications, in fact, were not linked with frequency of injections, and they all resolved themselves in the months it took for the treatments to wear off. Other studies of injectable substances have found that Botox circulates in the body for less than five minutes before being metabolized. Its effect is localized only in the muscle into which it is injected.

It does not, however, raise the brow position the way a brow lift does.

If you are considering botox injections to diminish wrinkles or frown lines? For more information call us to discuss the procedure and your specific needs. This column has been presented in the interest of a better public awareness of the benefits and limitations of plastic surgery by my office, conveniently located in the Mentor Medical Campus, 9485 Mentor Ave., Suite 100, Mentor (205-5750).

*P.S. Botox was first used to stop the incessant twitching of eye muscles in patients who experienced the problem.*

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