## MEDICAL



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## Q: I hear there are other uses for Botox besides smoothing out facial lines?

A: Although purified Botulinum (eg. Botox) is widely known as a cosmetic treatment for facial lines, it was initially developed as a medication to treat movement disorders and muscle spasms. Injection of minute amounts of this

drug temporarily relaxes the treated muscle resulting in improvement of symptoms.

Widely tested well over two decades, Botulinum toxin has an effective and safe record for treatment of several movement disorders. Patients with facial spasms or those with abnormal head position, neck pain and muscle spasms associated with dystonia (torticollis) may have dramatic benefit with proper injections of this medication.

Botulinum therapy for these types of movement disorders has to be tailored to the individual patient using specific techniques and sites of injection. Botulinum is also being used for the treatment of axillary hyperhidrosis (excessive underarm sweating).

Dr. Zafar is board-certified in neurology and has been in practice in the Kalamazoo area for over 15 years. He is now accepting patients without a referral. If you have a movement disorder or neurologic condition, contact the Kalamazoo Nerve Center at 269.323.0955 to schedule your neurologic evaluation.

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