

exaggerated muscle weakness including dysphagia and respiratory compromise.

- ▶ **Blepharospasm or hemifacial spasm** When used for blepharospasm and hemifacial spasm, reduced blinking can lead to corneal exposure, persistent epithelial defect and corneal ulceration (especially in those with VIIth nerve disorders)—careful testing of corneal sensation in previously operated eyes, avoidance of injection in lower lid area to avoid ectropion, and vigorous treatment of epithelial defect needed.
 - **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: botulinum toxins
 - **SIDE-EFFECTS**
 - ▶ **Common or very common** Alopecia · asthenia · autonomic dysreflexia · bladder diverticulum · constipation · dizziness · drowsiness · dry eye · dry mouth · dysphagia (most common after injection into sternocleidomastoid muscle and salivary gland) · ecchymosis (minimised by applying gentle pressure at injection site immediately after injection) · eye discomfort · eye disorders · eye inflammation · fall · fever · gait abnormal · haematuria · headaches · hot flush · increased risk of infection · influenza like illness · insomnia · joint disorders · leukocyturia · malaise · muscle complaints · muscle weakness · musculoskeletal stiffness · nausea · neuromuscular dysfunction · oedema · pain · paresis · sensation abnormal · skin reactions · subcutaneous nodule · urinary disorders · vision disorders
 - ▶ **Uncommon** Anxiety · coordination abnormal · depression · dysphonia · dyspnoea · facial paralysis · memory loss · oral paraesthesia · photosensitivity reaction · postural hypotension · speech impairment · taste altered · vertigo
 - ▶ **Frequency not known** Abdominal pain · angioedema · angle closure glaucoma · appetite decreased · arrhythmia · diarrhoea · hearing impairment · hypersensitivity · myocardial infarction · myopathy · nerve disorders · respiratory disorders · seizure · syncope · tinnitus · vomiting
 - **CONCEPTION AND CONTRACEPTION** Avoid in women of child-bearing age unless using effective contraception.
 - **PREGNANCY** Avoid unless essential—toxicity in *animal studies* (manufacturer of *Botox*[®] advise avoid).
 - **BREAST FEEDING** Low risk of systemic absorption but avoid unless essential.
 - **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** Preparations are not interchangeable.
 - **PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE** Patients and carers should be warned of the signs and symptoms of toxin spread, such as muscle weakness and breathing difficulties; they should be advised to seek immediate medical attention if swallowing, speech or breathing difficulties occur.
 - **NATIONAL FUNDING/ACCESS DECISIONS**
 - **NICE decisions**
 - ▶ **Botulinum toxin type A for the prevention of headaches in adults with chronic migraine (June 2012)** NICE TA260 Botulinum toxin type A (*Botox*[®]) is recommended as an option for the prophylaxis of headaches in adults with chronic migraine, (defined as headaches on at least 15 days per month, of which at least 8 days are with migraine):
 - that has not responded to at least three prior pharmacological prophylaxis therapies, **and**
 - whose condition is appropriately managed for medication overuse.
- Treatment should be stopped in people whose condition:
- is not adequately responding to treatment (defined as less than a 30% reduction in headache days per month after two treatment cycles), **or**
 - has changed to episodic migraine (defined as fewer than 15 headache days per month) for three consecutive months.
- Patients currently receiving treatment that is not as recommended above should have the option to continue

treatment until they and their clinician consider it appropriate to stop.

www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta260

- ▶ **Xeomin[®] (botulinum neurotoxin type A) for treating chronic sialorrhoea (October 2019)** NICE TA605

Xeomin[®] (botulinum neurotoxin type A) is recommended, within its marketing authorisation, as an option for treating chronic sialorrhoea caused by neurological conditions in adults. It is recommended only if the manufacturer provides it according to the commercial arrangement.

www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta605

Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) decisions

SMC No. 931/13

The *Scottish Medicines Consortium* has advised (July 2014) that botulinum toxin type A (*Botox*[®]) is accepted for restricted use within NHS Scotland for the management of bladder dysfunctions in adults who are not adequately managed with anticholinergics (overactive bladder with symptoms of urinary incontinence, urgency and frequency), who have failed appropriate oral treatment options.

SMC No. 692/11

The *Scottish Medicines Consortium* has advised (February 2017) that botulinum toxin type A (*Botox*[®]) is accepted for restricted use within NHS Scotland for the prophylaxis of headaches in adults with chronic migraine, (defined as headaches on at least 15 days per month, of which at least 8 days are with migraine), that has not responded to at least three prior oral pharmacological prophylaxis therapies and whose condition is appropriately managed for medication overuse.

SMC No. SMC2212

The *Scottish Medicines Consortium* has advised (November 2019) that clostridium botulinum neurotoxin type A (*Xeomin*[®]) is accepted for use within NHS Scotland for the symptomatic treatment of chronic sialorrhoea due to neurological disorders in adults.

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.

Powder for solution for injection

- ▶ **Azzalure** (Galderma (UK) Ltd)
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 125 unit** Azzalure 125unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £64.00 | 2 vial [PoM] £128.00
- ▶ **Bocouture** (Merz Pharma UK Ltd)
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 50 unit** Bocouture 50unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £72.00
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 100 unit** Bocouture 100unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £229.90
- ▶ **Botox** (Allergan Ltd)
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 50 unit** Botox 50unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £77.50 (Hospital only)
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 100 unit** Botox 100unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £138.20 (Hospital only)
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 200 unit** Botox 200unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £276.40 (Hospital only)
- ▶ **Dysport** (Ipsen Ltd)
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 300 unit** Dysport 300unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £92.40
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 500 unit** Dysport 500unit powder for solution for injection vials | 2 vial [PoM] £308.00
- ▶ **Xeomin** (Merz Pharma UK Ltd)
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 50 unit** Xeomin 50unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £72.00
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 100 unit** Xeomin 100unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £129.90
 - **Botulinum toxin type A 200 unit** Xeomin 200unit powder for solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £259.80 (Hospital only)