

Botox cures blepharospasm

Contributed by David Castillo

Roz Keene suffers from a condition called blepharospasm, a condition which causes the eyelids to close tightly for long periods of time.

Two years ago, Keene began suffering from neurological disorder and within two months she could barely open her eyes.

She described, "It involves the same part of the brain that goes wrong with Parkinson's disease, both are movement related. In my case, it's my eyes that are affected. If it was left untreated, my eyes would not open at all."

She spoke about the initial symptoms of her condition.

"I can remember going outside and it was a really dull day, but it felt like it was really bright and I couldn't keep my eyes open.

Then I noticed they would close when I was reading or watching the television. Then it progressed really quickly and at its worst, my eyes would close for several hours.

I tried to put all the effort I could into opening them. I might have been able to get them open for a split second, it was like they were really heavy. The doctors had difficulty manually opening them and that's a sign it was really bad."

The 50-year-old was cured using Botox, commonly known as an anti-wrinkle drug. Botox relaxes the muscles around the eye to prevent it from stiffening up.

She comments, "When I could see again, it was completely amazing, even the simple things like seeing my back garden was like a revelation. It was almost too much to take in."

While Botox is marketed as a cosmetic drug, more and more off-label applications are being found for the drug. Regulators are still reviewing most of the drug's off-label applications. With some precautions and more studies, Botox has the potential to cross to the medical industry—giving it more than just superficial value.

Source: Oxford Mail