

Scope of Practice Statement regarding the use of Botulinum Toxin Type A by Podiatrists

Approved by the Clinical Senate Committee 7th June 2024

- 1) The Royal College of Podiatry acknowledges the legitimate use of Botulinum toxin type A, more commonly known under the trade names of Botox, Dysport and Xeomin, by podiatrists for treatments relating to the foot and associated structures, in line with current evidence e.g. hyperhidrosis, lower limb spasticity.

The Royal College of Podiatry takes the view that the use of Botulinum toxin type A by podiatrists for other purposes e.g. facial treatments, falls outside the recognised scope of podiatric practice. Members who choose to undertake facial and other treatments not related to the foot using Botulinum toxin type A, must hold a separate appropriate qualification and indemnity cover to do so, and should practice in a capacity other than that of a podiatrist. Such members will have no redress to the Royal College of Podiatry for support should their practice be brought into question, or a claim be brought against them.

- 2) The Royal College of Podiatry has endorsed the following statement relating to the prescribing of medicines by podiatrists:

“The Royal College of Podiatry agree that it is necessary to direct those members who are engaged in the practice of prescribing of medicines to ensure that they prescribe medicines only for the treatment of disorders affecting the foot and associated structures, in line with



current practice and consistent with published UK and devolved country professional guidance and legislation. Should a podiatrist prescribe in a capacity other than that of a podiatrist they are likely to be in breach of prescribing regulations and will have no redress to the Royal College of Podiatry for support should their practice be brought into question, or a claim be brought against them. Where members have specific Level 7 (Advanced Practice level) knowledge and training in medicines, Botulinum toxin type A may be used to treat foot and ankle disability from lower limb spasticity, among other conditions, as part of holistic podiatric management, and preferably as part of a multidisciplinary team”.

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ROYAL COLLEGE
of PODIATRY

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