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• **Lifestyle** Botox anti wrinkle injections may cause muscle loss, new study shows;



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# Botox anti wrinkle injections may cause muscle loss, new study



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# shows;

BY [Rosemary Black](#)  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Tuesday, December 7th 2010, 3:11 PM



Murray/Getty

A popular wrinkle-erasing substance may cause muscle loss when it's injected.

Erasing wrinkles and lines with Botox may have an unwanted side effect: muscle loss. That's what a new study is saying about the skin-plumping injectable that some 2.5 million Americans used last year.

When researchers at the [University of Calgary](#) in Canada injected rabbits with Botulinum toxin A (aka Botox and Dysport), they learned that the substance could dissipate through the body rather than staying put.

"We were surprised by the degree of muscle loss and atrophy in the limb that was not injected with the Botulinum toxin," said lead study author Rafael Fortuna. "I think it's fair to say that the paper raises some important questions about the long-term therapeutic use of Botox, especially with children and adolescents."

The study, which appeared in the *Journal of Biomechanics*, may initiate concerns about the long-term safety of Botox injections. Though it was approved by the FDA for cosmetic use in 2002, the long-term effects of Botox have not been documented.

Plastic surgeon Michael Fiorillo told the Daily News that in 15 years of injecting Botox, he's never seen it spread beyond where it's injected.

"I have seen no issues at all," he says. "If you are injecting a large dose into a leg or an arm, maybe then you could have some weakness, but no one does that."

### Botox

Would you try Botox?

Yes, I believe it's safe.

No, new studies like this freak me out.

I'm not sure.



Cancer patient has been sorting her belongings, surrounded by family and friends.



**A new low: Bam's approval rating lower than Bush's**

It's gotten this bad for Obama - his predecessor scores higher than him.



**Portia De Rossi turns down 'DWTS'; show offered her same-sex dance partner**

Ellen DeGeneres' wife nixes trailblazing offer from ABC.



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Amber Heard, 24, reveals her sexuality at GLAAD's 25th anniversary party.



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Cosmetic surgeon Dr. Joseph Niamtu, spokesperson for the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery, notes that injecting Botox into a "nonhuman species that lives in a cage" is quite different from using it in people.

"There's a little bit of sensationalism in that study," he told The Daily News. "Treating large muscles with Botox may cause a temporary atrophy but it is reversible and it is inconsequential. There is no cause for alarm over this study."

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3:30:01 PM  
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These guys are making so much money off botox that they'd keep quiet if it caused their patients to wake up one morning with a third eye. How funny watching those greedy people stuttering in a panic to protect a cash cow like botox. Hey people, botulism is bad and that's what botox is made of. And how long before the tobacco industry fessed up and how many people protected it?

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