Hyperhidrosis and Botulinum Toxin in Dermatology
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G. Burg  Zurich
Hyperhidrosis and Botulinum Toxin in Dermatology

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Editors’ Portraits

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Medical studies and residency in Basel and Zurich. Board-certified dermatologist and venereologist. Ancient resident at the Department of Dermatology, University Hospital of Zurich. In 1998, establishment of the first hyperhidrosis unit at the Dermatology Department of the University Hospital in Zurich. In 2000, organisation and executive of the first Swiss Congress of botulinum toxin in the treatment of hyperhidrosis. Performance of European Injection Technique Training Courses. Chairman at hyperhidrosis course on the occasion of the EADV. Several publications and international lectures in the field of botulinum toxin and hyperhidrosis. Member of the Swiss Society of Dermatology and Venereology (SGDV), German Society of Dermatology (DDG), European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV), European Society of Cosmetic and Aesthetic Dermatology (ESCAD), American Academy of Dermatology (AAD). In autumn 2001 opening of a private practice for Dermatology and Venereology in Muttenz near Basel, Switzerland.
R. Böni, MD  
Zurich

Roland Böni studied Medicine at the University of Zurich. During his research career he worked at the Rockefeller Institute in New York, the Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and at the National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institutes in Maryland. Since 1997 Roland Böni has focused his research on the genetic analysis of microdissected tumors. Roland Böni has founded a biotech company in 2001, GRL Inc., and has currently a position as a senior physician at the University Hospital of Zurich.

G. Burg, MD  
Zurich

Since 1991, Dr. Günter Burg has been Chairman of the Department of Dermatology, University School of Medicine, Zurich, Switzerland, and is currently also the Dean of the Medical Faculty. He was the Chairman of the Department of Dermatology, University School of Medicine in Würzburg, Germany, from 1988 to 1991. Dr. Burg is member or honorary member of over 30 dermatological, medical and scientific societies and associations. Besides general dermatology and dermatopathology, his major research fields are cutaneous lymphoma and malignant melanoma and he has published more than 300 papers in peer-reviewed journals.
Acknowledgment

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Preface

Hyperhidrosis and bromhidrosis both have a high psychosocial impact on those who suffer from these types of functional dysregulation of the sweat glands. Many treatment modalities have been tried, most with little success. Recently, there has been an increased interest in these disorders, due to the introduction of botulinum toxin into medicine as a modality for treating not only muscle disorders, but also hyperhidrosis.

Botulinum toxin is a neurotoxin of the anaerobic bacterium Clostridium botulinum, which specifically blocks the liberation of acetylcholine in motor and vegetative nerve ends.

Hyperhidrosis is not only an unpleasant personal stigma, but also increases the risk of acquiring delayed-type hypersensitivity, especially in occupations which are prone to the development of epicutaneous sensitization. Botulinum toxin gives new perspectives to these patients. At the same time, botulinum toxin is an extremely potent poison, which requires exceptional care and responsibility on the part of the treating physician in order to be safely used for treatment purposes.

This book describes the state of the art in our knowledge of hyperhidrosis and its treatment. It begins with the anatomy of the sweat glands and the pathophysiology of sweating, and reviews the traditional and surgical treatment modalities of hyperhidrosis. Most chapters, however, are devoted to the use of botulinum toxin. Following a review of historical and basic aspects, it offers valuable applied knowledge in the form of a summary of our current clinical experience and detailed instructions in the practical application of botulinum toxin for the treatment of hyperhidrosis. Side effects and complications are also thoroughly discussed.

Most of the authors contributing to this book have long personal experience in the practical use of botulinum toxin for the treatment of hyperhidrosis and
bromhidrosis. They are all highly competent in their field, and we feel privileged
to have their input in this book. I am especially grateful to my co-editors Oliver
P. Kreyden and Roland Böni, who have both contributed significantly over the
last few years to the establishment and success of the Hyperhidrosis Clinic at the
Department of Dermatology, University Hospital of Zurich.

Günter Burg, MD, Zurich