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What to Know About Letybo, the Newest Injectable Neurotoxin to Get FDA Approval

Melanie Rud • Sep 12, 2024



Featured experts

[Dr. Connie Yang](#), a board-certified dermatologist at [PFRANKMD by Dr. Paul Jarrod Frank](#) in New York City

It wasn't all that long ago that [Botox](#) was the only injectable neurotoxin out there. Granted, it still holds the majority stake in the market—and has the greatest name recognition. So much so that the brand name is often (incorrectly) used to refer to any type of neuromodulator, akin to calling all tissues Kleenex. But there's a growing number of competitors out there: [Dysport](#), [Jeuneau](#), [Xeomin](#), and [Daxxify](#).

Now there's another one joining that list. Letybo recently received FDA approval and should be available later this year. What sets Letybo apart from its counterparts? Here's what doctors have to say.

What is Letybo?

"Letybo is the brand name for another botulinum toxin A, the same type of botulinum found in all the other neuromodulators," explains [Dr. Connie Yang](#), a board-certified dermatologist in New York City. Worth noting: Letybo has long been available in other countries and is actually the leading neurotoxin in South Korea, she adds.

How does Letybo differ from other neurotoxins?

As mentioned, all the injectable neurotoxins currently FDA approved for cosmetic use feature botulinum toxin A and work via the same mechanism of action—inhibiting the release of acetylcholine, a neurotransmitter that’s responsible for muscle movement, explains [Dr. Yang](#). (Myobloc, which uses botulinum toxin B, is currently FDA approved only for medical indications.)

Does Letybo kick in faster or last longer than other neurotoxins?

Again, not really. “From the data I’m seeing, Letybo supposedly kicks in within two to three days,” says [Dr. Yang](#). This is faster than Botox’s average onset of five to seven days but in line with how quickly Dysport starts to work.

So do we really need another neurotoxin?

“As providers introduce Letybo into their Rolodex, this will likely spur even more competition in the market, particularly as it pertains to innovation,” says [Dr. Yang](#).

As far as exactly where Letybo fits into the existing portfolio of neurotoxins remains to be seen. “It’s always exciting to have a new product, but only time will tell what exact benefits, if any, it will have that differentiate it from the options already available,” [Dr. Yang](#) points out.