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| Intervention | **075. Botulinum toxin type A for Spasmodic Dysphonia** |
| For the treatment of: | Spasmodic dysphonia |
| Commissioning position | This intervention is commissioned if spasmodic dystonia:   * is interfering with independent functioning (e.g. communication, nutritional intake) OR * is painful. |
| Summary of Rationale | Botulinum toxin has been in longstanding use for the treatment of Spasmodic dysphonia. The limited evidence of its effectiveness mainly relates to the most common Adductor form of Spasmodic dysphonia. Suitable dosage of Botulinum toxin is determined individually after a titration period.  Surgical interventions have been studied but currently lack evidence of superior effectiveness.  Speech therapy is also used but is more likely to be effective alongside Botulinum toxin injections. |
| References | [Botulinum toxin injections for the treatment of spasmodic dysphonia (Cochrane Library)](https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD004327.pub2/full)  [Clinical Practice Guideline: Hoarseness (Dysphonia) (Update)](https://www.rcot.org/2021/pdf/Clinical%20Practice%20Guideline-%20Hoarseness%20(Dysphonia)%20(Update).pdf)  [Use of Botulinum Toxin in Spasmodic Dysphonia: A Review of Recent Studies](https://www.cureus.com/articles/107948-use-of-botulinum-toxin-in-spasmodic-dysphonia-a-review-of-recent-studies#!/) |
| Effective from: | January 2025 |
| Policy Review Date | January 2028 |