

## ■ FDA: Botox Maker Misled Public Over Safety

Various wire services report the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has accused Allergan, the company which makes Botox, of misleading the public as to how safe the drug actually is. Most recently, Botox injections have been used for making wrinkles disappear.

Steven Masiello is from the FDA's Office of Compliance and Biologics Quality. In a letter to Pharmacia, he states, "The agency has concluded that your journal advertisements are false and/or misleading because they falsely identify the product as a cosmetic treatment, fail to reveal material facts about the products use, and minimize the risk information presented."

Universally recognized as a strong poison, Botox is commonly used to paralyze spastic muscles in conditions such as cerebral palsy. The most common side-effects of Botox are headache, nausea, respiratory infection, flu syndrome and temporary drooping of the eyelids.

Commentary: Botox is the fastest growing cosmetic treatment in the United States.