

# Novel Subtype of Botulinum Toxin for Pharmaceutical Use

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The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) is seeking commercial partners interested in developing a novel botulinum neurotoxin type A formulation useful for patients resistant to BOTOX.

#### Overview

Clostridium botulinum produces botulinum neurotoxin (BoNT), which can cause debilitating disease but also is used to treat disorders like chronic headache, spastic muscles and strabismus.

The bacteria produce seven distinguishable serotypes of BoNT, designated A-G. Commercially available pharmaceuticals and the cosmetic agent BOTOX are derived from type A. While the most widely used, type A is immunogenic, meaning patients become resistant to it after repeated use.

#### The Invention

UW-Madison researchers have isolated a novel plasmid found in a *C. botulinum* type A strain that is not neutralized by antibodies. The plasmid encodes genes for subtypes BoNT/A3 or BoNT/A4 and BoNT/B. The neurotoxins can be purified and formulated into pharmaceuticals or vaccines.

## **Applications**

· Producing purified botulinum neurotoxin for research, therapy and cosmetics

### **Key Benefits**

- Not neutralized by the immune system
- Could prolong the effectiveness of BOTOX and other treatments

## Stage of Development

The researchers have purified botulinum neurotoxin from subtypes A3 and A4.

### **Additional Information**

For More Information About the Inventors

• Eric Johnson

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