The Real Burden of Spasticity
Symptom recurrence: an unpleasant roller coaster ride for patients?

What is spasticity?
Spasticity is generally caused by disruptions to the area of the brain and spinal cord responsible for controlling muscle and stretch reflexes. This damage can be caused by stroke, injury, multiple sclerosis, or cerebral palsy.

SPASTICITY AFFECTS MORE THAN 12 MILLION PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

About the Carenity 2 Survey
The Carenity 2 Survey examined the challenges experienced by 210 adult patients from across the U.S., the UK, France, Germany, and Italy. All patients had spasticity associated with stroke, traumatic brain injury, or spinal cord injury and were being treated (or had been treated within a year prior to the survey) with botulinum neurotoxin type A (BoNT-A) injections.

Most common symptoms re-emerging between injections:
- 45% muscle stiffness
- 64% muscle pain
- 53% muscle spasm

Recurring symptoms of spasticity have a far-reaching impact on up to 17 aspects of quality of life (QoL), including:
- Sleeping, resulting in fatigue
- Moving around unassisted
- Performing daily tasks
- Maintaining relationships
- Experiencing depression and anxiety
- Performing at work

Impact on QoL is a roller coaster for patients treated with BoNT-A for spasticity:
- Maximum effect
- Ability to move around
- Self-confidence
- Relationships with family and friends
- Least impact
- Effects start waning
- Relationships with family and friends
- Maximum impact
- The day before new injection

Impact on QoL started to increase as treatment effect wore off

83% saw symptoms of spasticity return between two sessions of BoNT-A
59% saw symptoms of spasticity return less than three months after treatment

The re-emergence of symptoms between injections impacts a patient's professional life:
- 97% saw their professional lives disrupted
- 47% needed to take time off work

How can we help patients in the future?
LONGER-LASTING TREATMENT CAN HELP END THE ROLLER COASTER RIDE FOR PATIENTS

72% of patients expect longer-lasting benefits between treatments

References:

About Carenity
Carenity is an independent company that designs multi-country surveys to understand the patient needs and insights that can improve patient experience. Ipsen worked with Carenity to design and produce the survey in accordance with the ICH-GCP (Good Clinical Practice) and the EU-GCP (Good Clinical Practice) guidelines. The survey was conducted in April 2021.