complex and positively charged carrier, or a premix that may in turn be used to produce such a formulation. Also provided are kits that contain means for sequentially administering a botulinum toxin complex (or a reduced botulinum toxin complex including just the 150 KD neurotoxin itself or the neurotoxin with some native complex proteins) and a positively charged carrier.

[0020a] In one aspect, there is provided a method of administering botulinum toxin to achieve a cosmetic effect to an individual in need thereof, the method comprising

injecting an effective amount of a sterile injectable formulation comprising a botulinum toxin composition into the individual to achieve a cosmetic effect,

wherein the botulinum toxin composition comprises

a positively charged carrier comprising the amino acid sequence RKKRRQRRR G-$(K)_{15}$- GRKKRRQRRR,

a botulinum toxin component present in an amount suitable for injection, the botulinum toxin component selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin complex, reduced botulinum toxin complex, and botulinum toxin, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent suitable for injection,

wherein the positively charged carrier is non-covalently associated with the botulinum toxin component.

[0020b] In another aspect, there is provided use of an effective amount of a botulinum toxin composition for the preparation of a sterile injectable formulation to achieve a therapeutic or cosmetic effect in an individual in need thereof,

wherein the botulinum toxin composition comprises

a positively charged carrier comprising the amino acid sequence RKKRRQ RRRG-$(K)_{15}$-GRKKRRQRRR,

a botulinum toxin component present in an amount suitable for injection, the botulinum toxin component selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin complex, reduced botulinum toxin complex, and botulinum toxin, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent suitable for injection,

wherein the positively charged carrier is non-covalently associated with the botulinum toxin component.

[0020c] In another aspect, there is provided a method of preparing a sterile injectable botulinum toxin formulation, the method comprising

providing an effective amount of a botulinum toxin component present in an amount suitable for injection, the botulinum toxin component selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin complex, a reduced botulinum toxin complex, and a botulinum toxin;

providing a positively charged carrier comprising the amino acid sequence RKKRRQ RRRG-$(K)_{15}$-GRKKRRQRRR ; and

combining the botulinum toxin component with the positively charged carrier and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent to form the sterile injectable botulinum toxin formulation;

wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable diluent is suitable for use in injectable

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A method of administering botulinum toxin to achieve a cosmetic effect to an individual in need thereof, the method comprising

injecting an effective amount of a sterile injectable formulation comprising a botulinum toxin composition into the individual to achieve a cosmetic effect,

wherein the botulinum toxin composition comprises

a positively charged carrier comprising the amino acid sequence RKKRRQRRR G-$(K)_{15}$-GRKKRRQRRR,

a botulinum toxin component present in an amount suitable for injection, the botulinum toxin component selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin complex, reduced botulinum toxin complex, and botulinum toxin, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent suitable for injection,

wherein the positively charged carrier is non-covalently associated with the botulinum toxin component.

2. Use of an effective amount of a botulinum toxin composition for the preparation of a sterile injectable formulation to achieve a therapeutic or cosmetic effect in an individual in need thereof,

wherein the botulinum toxin composition comprises

a positively charged carrier comprising the amino acid sequence RKKRRQ RRRG-$(K)_{15}$-GRKKRRQRRR,

a botulinum toxin component present in an amount suitable for injection, the botulinum toxin component selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin complex, reduced botulinum toxin complex, and botulinum toxin, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent suitable for injection,

wherein the positively charged carrier is non-covalently associated with the botulinum toxin component.

3. The method according to claim 1 or use according to claim 2, wherein the botulinum toxin component is obtained from serotypes A, B, C, D, E, F, or G of C. *botulinum.*

4. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the positively charged carrier stabilizes botulinum toxin against degradation.

5. The method or use according to claim 4, wherein the positively charged carrier stabilizes botulinum toxin against degradation to retain potency after 6 months ageing at 4 °C.

6. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the positively charged carrier reduces local diffusion of the botulinum toxin following injection.

7. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein antibody generation following injection of the formulation into the subject's body is reduced compared to antibody generation following injection of a formulation consisting of 100 U of type A botulinum toxin with accessory protein, 0.5 mg of human albumin, and 0.9 mg of sodium chloride.

8. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the cosmetic effect is selected from the group consisting of decreasing the appearance of fine lines and/or wrinkles, adjusting facial appearance in a desirable way, widening the eyes, lifting corners of the mouth, and smoothing lines that fan out from the upper lip.

9. The use according to any one of claims 2 to 7, wherein the therapeutic effect is reducing or enhancing immune response or reduction of a symptom associated with a disorder selected from the group consisting of muscle tension, muscle spasm, hemifacial spasm, adult onset spasmodic torticollis, anal fissure, blepharospasm, cerebral palsy, headaches, migraine headache, strabismus, temporomandibular joint disorder, neurologic pain, overactive bladder, rhinitis, sinusitis, acne, dystonia, dystonic contractions, hyperhidrosis, and hypersecretion of a gland controlled by the cholinergic nervous system.

10. A method of preparing a sterile injectable botulinum toxin formulation, the method comprising

providing an effective amount of a botulinum toxin component present in an amount suitable for injection, the botulinum toxin component selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin complex, a reduced botulinum toxin complex, and a botulinum toxin;

providing a positively charged carrier comprising the amino acid sequence

RKKRRQ RRRG-$(K)_{15}$-GRKKRRQRRR ; and

combining the botulinum toxin component with the positively charged carrier and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent to form the sterile injectable botulinum toxin formulation;

wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable diluent is suitable for use in injectable pharmaceutical or cosmeceutical compositions; and

wherein the positively charged carrier is non-covalently associated with the botulinum toxin component.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of storing the injectable formulation in a syringe suitable for injecting the formulation.

12. The method according to claim 10 or 11, wherein the botulinum toxin component is obtained from serotype A, B, C, D, E, F, or G of *C. botulinum.*

13. The method according to any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein the positively charged carrier stabilizes botulinum toxin against degradation.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the positively charged carrier stabilizes botulinum toxin against degradation to retain potency after 6 months ageing at 4 °C.

15. The method according to any one of claims 10 to 14, wherein the positively charged carrier reduces local diffusion of botulinum toxin following injection.

16. The method according to any one of claims 10 to 15, wherein antibody generation following injection of the formulation into the subject's body is reduced compared to antibody generation following injection of a formulation consisting of 100 U of type A botulinum toxin with accessory protein, 0.5 mg of human albumin, and 0.9 mg of sodium chloride.

17. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said formulation in an amount from 1 to 400 U per injection, or from 10 to 350 U per injection.

18. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said formulation in an amount from 30 to 250 U per injection, or from 50 to 200 U per injection.

19. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said formulation in an amount from 1 to 200 U per injection, or from 1 to 250 U per injection.

20. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said formulation in an amount from 10 to 200 U per injection, or from 10 to 250 U per injection.

21. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said formulation in an amount from 30 to 200 U per injection or from 50 to 250 U per injection.

22. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said formulation is to be administered to provide from about 1 U to about 20,000 U, or from about 1 U to about 10,000 U, of the botulinum toxin component per cm^2 of skin surface treated in a series of treatments over time.

23. The method or use according to any one of claims 1 to 22, wherein said botulinum toxin component is obtained from serotype A of *C. botulinum.*

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in the range of 10 to 200 U per injection.

25. The method according to claim 24, wherein the botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in the range of 30 to 200 U per injection.

26. Use of an effective amount of a botulinum toxin composition for the preparation of a sterile injectable formulation for administration by injection to an individual, at an area affected by muscle spasm, to reduce or prevent said muscle spasm,

wherein the botulinum toxin composition comprises:

a positively charged carrier comprising the amino acid sequence RKKRRQRRRG-$(K)_{15}$-GRKKRRQRRR,

a botulinum toxin component present in an amount suitable for injection, the botulinum toxin component selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin complex, reduced botulinum toxin complex, and botulinum toxin, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent suitable for injection;

wherein the positively charged carrier is non-covalently associated with the botulinum toxin component.

27. The use according to claim 26, wherein the botulinum toxin component is obtained from serotypes A, B, C, D, E, F, or G of C. *botulinum.*

28. The use according to claim 27, wherein the botulinum toxin component is a type A botulinum toxin component.

29. The use according to claim 28, wherein the reduction or prevention of muscle spasm results from local muscle paralysis following injection of said composition and wherein said local muscle paralysis lasts longer than local muscle paralysis following injection of a formulation of the same dose of units of botulinum toxin consisting of type A botulinum toxin with accessory protein, 0.5 mg of human albumin, and 0.9 mg of sodium chloride.

30. The use according to claim 29, wherein said muscle paralysis lasts approximately twice as long as muscle paralysis following injection of a formulation of the same dose of units of botulinum toxin consisting of type A botulinum toxin with accessory protein, 0.5 mg of human albumin, and 0.9 mg of sodium chloride.

31. The use according to any one of claims 26 to 30, wherein the muscle spasm is associated with at least one condition selected from the group consisting of hemifacial spasm, adult onset spasmodic torticollis, anal fissure, blepharospasm, strabismus, temporomandibular joint disorder, overactive bladder, facial muscle spasm, muscular cramp, muscular ache, dystonia,

cervical dystonia, and dystonic contraction.

32. The use according to any one of claims 26 to 31, wherein the affected area is at least one area selected from the group consisting of the face, neck, shoulder, back, arm, elbow, hand, pelvis, leg, knee, and foot.

33. The use according to any one of claims 26 to 32, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in an amount from 10 to 350 U per injection.

34. The use according to claim 33, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in an amount from 30 to 250 U per injection.

35. The use according to claim 34, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in an amount from 50 to 200 U per injection.

36. The use according to any one of claims 26 to 32, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in an amount from 10 to 200 U per injection.

37. The use according to claim 36, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in an amount from 30 to 200 U per injection.

38. The use according to any one of claims 26 to 32, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in an amount of 10 U per injection.

39. The use according to any one of claims 26 to 32, wherein said botulinum toxin component is present in said composition in an amount of 30 U per injection.