



The Vein Center

OF THE PLASTIC AND HAND SURGERY ASSOCIATES

SCLEROTHERAPY PATIENT INFORMATION

- Sclerotherapy is a medical procedure used to shrink and collapse abnormal veins by injecting a chemical agent into the lumen of the vein with the purpose of destroying the vein so blood no longer flows through it.
- Sclerotherapy is usually and routinely used by Vein Specialists at The Vein Center of The Plastic & Hand Surgery Associates for medically-indicated reasons following Endovenous Laser Ablation (EVLA) procedures to treat and destroy residual collateral varicose veins. This is part of the 'Continuum of Therapy Approach' adopted by The Vein Center which ensures that EVLA-treated vein segments will not experience a treatment failure by vein recanalization. Ultrasound guidance is used when medically necessary to direct a small needle into the lumen of each targeted vein to ensure accurate placement of sclerosant, a procedure called ultrasound-guided Sclerotherapy or echosclerotherapy.
- Mild discomfort may occur following a Sclerotherapy session. This is usually described as a temporary burning or cramping sensation. Along with leg exercises and walking, over-the-counter acetaminophen (Tylenol) may be taken to alleviate discomfort in your legs.
- A Sclerotherapy procedure usually takes about 30 minutes. Following your treatment session, you will need to walk on our clinic treadmill for 20 minutes.
- Usually a majority, but not all of the treated veins, can be eliminated with each Sclerotherapy injection session. Several Sclerotherapy sessions are usually required to chemically ablate the majority of veins treated using this technique.
- Veins responsive to Sclerotherapy usually do not reappear. However, smaller visible surface veins may appear after sclerotherapy sessions in response to redirected blood flow.
- Your Vein Specialist at The Vein Center of The Plastic & Hand Surgery Associates will determine medically-indicated treatment intervals for your sclerotherapy sessions, as well as the duration of time you will need to wear compression stockings following your Sclerotherapy session. In general, Sclerotherapy sessions are scheduled every 1-2 months following an EVLA procedure.
- It is important to remember that it took years to create your varicose vein problem. Realistically, it may take weeks or months for us at The Vein Center of The Plastic & Hand Surgery Associates to chemically ablate your abnormal veins.
- Wearing your compression stockings as instructed by your Vein Specialist will optimize the effectiveness and overall clinical outcome of your vein treatment sessions.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please call The Vein Center of The Plastic & Hand Surgery Associates to speak with your Vein Specialist or to their nursing staff at (601) 939-9999.