



SCLEROTHERAPY

This form is intended to provide you with information necessary to assist you in making an informed decision about whether to undergo sclerotherapy treatment of varicose veins. Sign this consent only after you have read and understood this information and all of your questions have been answered to your satisfaction.

Procedure Description

During injection/compression sclerotherapy, a very small needle is used to inject a chemical into abnormal varicose veins. The chemical is designed to destroy the lining of the vein and prompt your body to shut the vein down. Multiple injections are performed during a single session and liquid or foamed chemical may be used. Ultrasound imaging may be used to guide needle placement and injection. Afterwards, a stocking is applied and/or the leg may be wrapped to provide compression. Most patients experience significant symptomatic as well as cosmetic improvement, but neither is guaranteed. Your condition may improve, stay the same, or even worsen.

Potential Risks, Complications and Side Effects

The procedure is quite safe and complications are very rare, but possible. Potential side effects or complications are:

- ▶ **Allergic reaction** to the drug being used.
- ▶ **Intraarterial injection:** extremely rare, could result in significant tissue destruction.
- ▶ **Deep vein thrombosis** (clot forming in deep veins): extremely rare.
- ▶ **Nerve damage:** extremely rare, irritation to a nearby nerve could cause transient or long term numbness, pain, or muscle weakness.
- ▶ **Superficial phlebitis:** Although we intentionally injure the abnormal vein, more extensive inflammation of the surrounding tissue is possible and will respond to measures such as compression and anti-inflammatory drugs.
- ▶ **Infection:** rarely do we see actual infection of the vein or surrounding tissue.
- ▶ **Ulceration:** Skin damage may occasionally occur following this treatment and usually consists of a small sore at or near the injection site. It is generally not dangerous but the sore will heal slowly and may leave a scar.
- ▶ **Hyperpigmentation:** Some patients may develop discoloration of the overlying skin of the treated vein, usually brownish or yellow. It will fade with time but may take months and some permanent color may remain.
- ▶ **New spider veins:** This effect is called telangiectatic matting. The new veins are very fine spider veins which usually resolve spontaneously in several months, but some may require additional treatment.
- ▶ **Vein unsuitable for heart surgery:** Also, treatment of or near the great saphenous vein would make it unavailable or unsuitable for use in heart surgery should it be needed at a later date.
- ▶ **Common Side Effects**
 - ▶ Some mild bruising is common and will resolve on its own.
 - ▶ Itching, mild pain, or swelling may occur and are temporary.
 - ▶ It is common to develop areas of intravascular trapped blood in the treated blood. The patient usually experiences a small area of a tender lump. If left alone, these will resolve but may be more likely to leave discoloration. They may be treated in the office at subsequent treatments with a simple needle puncture using local anesthetic.
 - ▶ Compression garments or wraps may result in blisters, irritation, or rash which is temporary.
- ▶ **Other Complications:** Other complications not known at this time may occur.

Potential Risks of Not Undergoing Treatment

Usually, there are no serious health consequences of not undergoing treatment except that your condition may worsen. Progression of chronic venous insufficiency may lead to more serious consequences such as skin changes, ulcers or sores, swelling, phlebitis, or bleeding.

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Potential Benefits

The purpose of the procedure and potential benefits are reduction in size or closure of treated varicose veins, improvement in varicose vein related symptoms, and prevention or treatment of ulcers, swelling, and other more serious conditions associated with chronic venous insufficiency.

Alternative Treatment

Some patients may get adequate relief of venous insufficiency symptoms by wearing graduated compression stockings. Alternative treatments for varicose veins include surgical stripping, ambulatory phlebectomy, and other treatments similarly aimed at removing, destroying, or closing abnormal varicose veins.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above and that I have been adequately informed of the nature, intended purpose and significant risks and consequences of Injection/Compression Sclerotherapy for varicose veins, as well as alternative treatment methods. I acknowledge that I have been given ample opportunity to ask questions about my condition and treatment options. I hereby authorize and consent to Sclerotherapy performed by Dr. Arnold P. Robin MD or Dr. Dean T. Velis MD. I also authorize the taking and use of photographs.

A treatment plan commonly requires multiple sessions of sclerotherapy. This consent will apply to all subsequent treatments within a period of one year.

Patient Name	Patient Signature	Date
Witness	Signature	Date

I have discussed the nature and purpose of Endovenous Laser Ablation and the associated risks, consequences, and available alternatives with the person signing above, and I am satisfied that he/she understands.

Physician	Date
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