



ADVANCED AESTHETICS
Advanced Techniques, Beautiful Results

CUTANEOUS LASER VEIN INFORMATION

Varicose veins and spider veins are chronic and recurrent conditions. The variety of treatments available may not offer a cure, but rather a control of the condition. Surgically removed veins cannot come back; veins that are laser-sealed will not return. However, your tendency towards developing new veins will not be relieved by this or any other form of treatment

Will laser therapy work on my veins?

The laser can treat spider veins, reticular veins (deeper blue veins) and facial veins. We offer a complimentary consultation to evaluate and access your veins; at the consultation an ultrasound study may be performed to determine if there are any underlying venous problems. Prior surgery or treatment on your veins could affect the treatment outcome.

What is laser vein removal?

Laser technology offers a very effective means of treating spider veins. The laser has a unique ability to selectively target blood vessels without adversely affecting surrounding tissues. Laser light is specifically absorbed by the spider veins. The vessels are gently heated, causing the blood in the vessels to clot. The body reabsorbs the treated blood vessels during the natural healing process.

What does it feel like?

Although many patients report little or no discomfort, some may experience a mild stinging sensation when the laser pulse is delivered. The cold tip on the hand piece helps soothe the skin before and after the laser energy is delivered.

How long will the treatment take?

Treatment time is limited to 15 minutes unless specified prior to scheduling your appointment. Patients with several areas on their legs that need treated may request their treatments from their package be used in one session.

How many treatments will I need?

Depending upon the severity of the veins, you will need 2 or 3 laser treatments. The treatment is performed on the existing blood vessels, diminishing or completely eliminating their appearance. However, any newly developing veins cannot be prevented. If your body tends to develop vascular problems, you will probably have to return for further treatments.

What happens to the skin after the treatment?

Patients may experience some temporary redness, swelling or bruising. This doesn't happen often, and is typically gone within a few hours. Others may experience pigmentary changes in skin color, but these will disappear and return to normal over time. Since laser treatment does not burn or cut the skin in any way, no bandages are necessary.

When can I resume normal activities?

Although we encourage you to resume normal activities almost immediately, we do ask that you refrain from vigorous exercise and avoid hot tubs for at least 24 hours post treatment. Also avoid direct sun exposure after treatment and if you do go in the sun, protect the treated area with a minimum SPF 30 Sun Block (not sunscreen). If treating facial veins, please avoid any irritants to your skin, such as any products containing Retin-A, retinol, benzoyl peroxide, glycolic /salicylic acids or astringents for one week before and after your treatment.

Is there OTC medications I should avoid before or after my laser procedure?

Do **not** take **Aspirin** or **blood thinners** (including Gingko Bilboa, Vitamin E) for 7 days prior to your scheduled procedure, unless discussed with and/or prescribed by your surgeon.

Will I need compression stockings after my treatment?

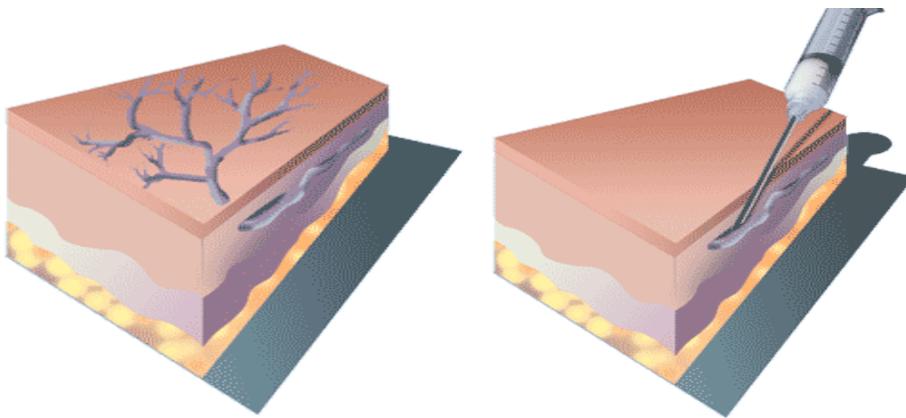
Measurements will be taken for compression stockings at your initial appointment. The cost will depend on the type of stocking that is prescribed for you. Patients should wear their stockings for 2 weeks following treatment. They are also valuable in deterring future veins when worn when flying, walking or standing for great lengths of time.



SCLEROTHERAPY: THE PROCEDURE

Sclerotherapy is a technique, which involves the use of a very fine needle to inject a solution called a sclerosant, directly into the veins. The solution causes damage to the lining of the vein wall, which eventually seals off and closes the blood vessel, causing it to disappear or fade.

Larger veins (reticular veins) are usually treated first. After the skin is thoroughly cleansed with alcohol, the physician uses a syringe with a tiny needle to inject a small amount of sclerosing solution directly into a vein.



The solution then causes the vessel to become irritated and swell shut. When the needle is withdrawn, pressure is immediately applied to the area. The skin may be kneaded to help disperse the solution and reduce bruising. Each vein may require several injections and most disappear in two weeks to two months.

The first thing you should know is that results are not instantaneous. It takes time for the veins to disappear. In fact, it is common and very probable that your legs will look worse before getting better. Bruising at or near the injection site or along the course of the vein is common. Small welts similar to mosquito bites may also occur, which is a normal response.

The bruising usually fades away in a week but could possibly, in some cases, take up to 2 weeks to fade. After this, you may see considerable fading of the treated veins. In some cases, the veins may be completely gone. However, it can take up to 6-8 weeks for the veins to fade to the maximum amount. Please avoid direct sun exposure or tanning beds and lotions for at least 6 weeks to prevent skin discoloration. You may notice scabs or dryness developing over the procedure sites. This is normal and will quickly resolve. Do not pick or scratch at the scabs as this may result in scarring.