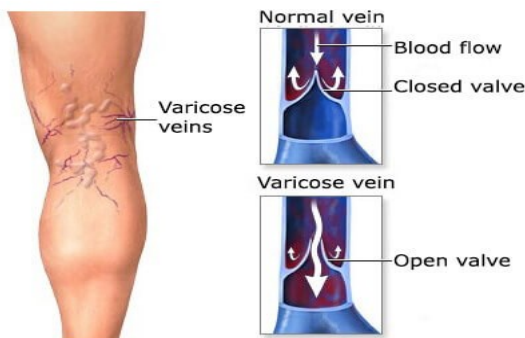


More Than Just Veins

Veins transport blood from your feet to your heart. Your calf muscles and a series of **one-way valves** in the veins propel the blood against gravity. Varicose veins occur when these one-way valves fail and blood can leak back towards the feet, this is called **venous reflux**. It can cause a back up of pressure in the veins called **venous hypertension**. Women are more prone to varicose veins and risk factors include pregnancy, obesity, long periods of standing or sitting or family history. It can affect you in a plethora of ways including leg pain, swelling, visible large veins, spider veins, skin discoloration and leg ulcers.

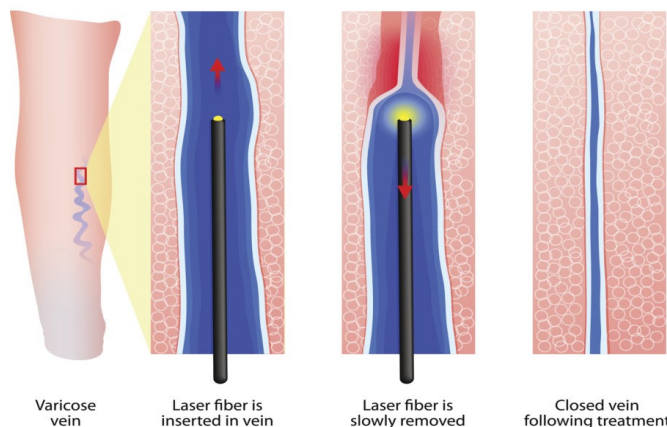


Varicose veins are the large bulging veins you can see and feel on your legs. They can be a sign of venous hypertension and if left untreated can lead to chronic leg pain and leg ulceration. **Spider Veins** are small blue veins under the skin that are the first sign of varicose veins.

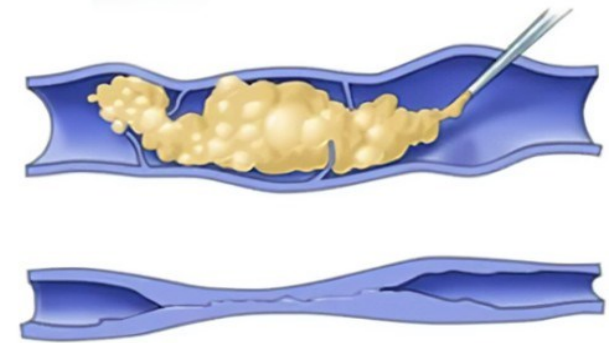


Endovenous Laser Therapy

Venous disease can be mild and only require life-style changes and compression therapy. **Venous reflux in the greater saphenous vein can lead to intractable pain, skin thickening and darkening (lipodermatosclerosis) or venous ulcers.** Advances in minimally invasive venous technology now allow



vascular surgeons to seal the vein from the inside and treat this disease. A laser is placed inside the vein through a needle stick and then laser energy is used to burn inside of the vein until it seals completely. The blood is now unable to flow backwards and this relieves the backpressure and venous hypertension. It is done as an office based procedure and patients go home and return to normal activity the same day with no downtime.



Foam Sclerotherapy

Sclerotherapy is used to treat spider veins. A foam sclerosant is injected directly into the vein and it chemically seals the vein and prevents it from filling with blood. Spider veins are much more common in females and are usually done for cosmetic reasons. Sclerotherapy can also be used to treat larger varicose veins, especially close to an ulcer to assist them in healing. **Sclerotherapy is the preferred treatment for spider veins and EVLA is the preferred treatment for venous reflux.**

Book your consultation with our surgeon to the best treatment for your varicose veins



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