



**FRANKLIN J. FRASCO, M.D., F.A.C.S.**

Vascular Surgery

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**SCLEROTHERAPY INFORMED CONSENT FORM**

This form is designed to provide you with the information you need to make an informed decision whether to have sclerotherapy performed. If you have any questions or do not understand any potential risks, please do not hesitate to ask us.

**WHAT IS SCLEROTHERAPY?**

Sclerotherapy is a popular method of eliminating varicose veins and superficial telangiectasis (“spider veins”) in which a solution, called a sclerosing agent, is injected into the veins.

**DOES SCLEROTHERAPY WORK FOR EVERYONE?**

The majority of persons who have sclerotherapy performed will be cleared of their varicosities or at least see good improvement. Unfortunately, however, there is no guarantee that sclerotherapy will be effective in every case. Approximately 10% of patients who undergo sclerotherapy have poor to fair results. (“Poor results” means that the veins have not totally disappeared after six treatments.) In very rare instances, the patient’s condition may become worse after sclerotherapy treatment.

**HOW MANY TREATMENTS WILL I NEED?**

The number of treatments needed to clear or improve the condition differs from patient to patient, depending upon the extent of the varicose and spider veins present. One to six or more treatments may be needed; the average is three to four. Individual veins usually require one to three treatments.

**WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS?**

The most common side effects experienced with sclerotherapy treatment are:

1. **ITCHING** – Depending on the type of solution used, you may experience mild itching along the vein route. This itching normally lasts 1 to 2 days.
2. **TRANSIENT HYPERPIGMENTATION** – Approximately 30% of patients who undergo sclerotherapy notice a discoloration of light brown streaks after treatment. In almost every patient, the veins become darker immediately after the procedure. In rare instances, this darkening of the vein may persist for 4 to 12 months.
3. **SLOUGHING** – Sloughing occurs in less than 3% of patients who receive sclerotherapy. Sloughing consists of a small ulceration at the injection site that heals slowly. A blister may form, open, and become ulcerated. The scar that follows should return to a normal color.
4. **ALLERGIC REACTIONS** – Very rarely, a patient may have an allergic reaction to the sclerosing agent used. The risk of an allergic reaction is greater in patients who have a history of allergies.



SPIDER & VARICOSE VEINS/QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ HEIGHT \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_ WEIGHT \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRED BY \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. How many years have you noticed this problem? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Have you ever been treated for this problem? \_\_\_\_\_  
By whom and when? \_\_\_\_\_

With what method?

- Injection \_\_\_\_\_
- Electrocautery \_\_\_\_\_
- Laser \_\_\_\_\_
- Surgery \_\_\_\_\_

- 3. When did your veins occur? \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Before pregnancy \_\_\_\_\_  
After pregnancy \_\_\_\_\_  
After trauma \_\_\_\_\_  
After birth control \_\_\_\_\_  
Or Premarin therapy \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

- 4. Is there a family history of varicose or spider veins? \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother \_\_\_\_\_  
Father \_\_\_\_\_  
Sister \_\_\_\_\_  
Brother \_\_\_\_\_  
Children \_\_\_\_\_  
Aunts \_\_\_\_\_  
Uncles \_\_\_\_\_

- 5. Do you have a history of? \_\_\_\_\_  
Thrombophlebitis \_\_\_\_\_  
Pulmonary embolus \_\_\_\_\_  
Deep vein thrombosis \_\_\_\_\_  
Swollen feet/ankles \_\_\_\_\_

- 6. Are you developing new veins? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Are your present veins getting bigger? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. After prolonged standing or sitting do your legs ache? \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. Do your legs or veins ache before menses? \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. Are you required to be on your feet for long periods? \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. Are you pregnant or planning a pregnancy soon? \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. What medicines do you take?  
Birth control pills, Premarin or hormones? \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_



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5. PAIN – A few patients may experience moderate to severe pain and some bruising, usually at the site of the injection. The veins may become tender to the touch, after treatment, and an uncomfortable sensation may run along the vein route. This pain is usually temporary, in most cases lasting 1 to, at most, 7 days.

**WHAT ARE THE OTHER SIDE EFFECTS?**

Other side effects include a burning sensation during injection of some solutions, neovascularization (the development – usually temporary – of new tiny blood vessels), transient phlebitic-type reactions (swelling of the vein might cause the ankles to swell), temporary superficial blebs or wheals (similar to hives), and, very rarely, wound infection, poor healing, or scarring.

Phlebitis is a very rare complication, seen in approximately 1 of every 1,000 patients treated for varicose veins greater than 3 to 4 mm in diameter. The dangers of phlebitis include the possibility of pulmonary embolus (a blood clot to the lungs) and postphlebitis syndrome, in which the blood clot is not carried out of the legs, resulting in permanent swelling of the legs.

**WHAT IF I EXPERIENCE A PROBLEM AFTER RECEIVING SCLEROTHERAPY?**

If you notice any type of adverse reaction, please call your doctor immediately.

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

By my initials, I acknowledge that I have received a copy of this sclerotherapy informed consent form \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read the foregoing informed consent form and that the doctor has adequately informed me of the risks of sclerotherapy treatment, alternative methods of treatment, and the risks of not treating my condition, and I hereby consent to sclerotherapy treatment performed by Dr. Frasco.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_AM/PM

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATIENT'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PATIENT'S REPRESENTATIVE  
(if patient is a minor or mentally incompetent, signature of parent or legal guardian is required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
WITNESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
RELATIONSHIP TO PATIENT