

Sclerotherapy Information

Spider veins, or telangiectasias, are tiny veins that are visible on the skin surface. Spider veins are caused by weak vascular walls and inefficient circulation. Spider veins cause no health problems but many people feel they look unappealing. Spider veins can sometimes resemble a spider: a large dark spot with thin veins radiating out of it, or they may appear in other patterns and variations in different places in the body. Frequently occurring in the legs, spider veins can be dark or lighter shades of blue, purple, or red. Treatment for spider veins is a simple procedure called Sclerotherapy.

WHAT IS SCLEROTHERAPY?

Sclerotherapy is the removal of leg veins by injection using what is called the micro-injection technique. Spider veins are injected with a sclerosing solution which irritates the wall of the blood vessel so that the veins cease to carry blood. The body will slowly absorb the tiny veins which take about 4-6 weeks.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY VEINS CAN BE TREATED USING THIS PROCEDURE?

Most veins can be treated with Sclerotherapy at your consultation we can determine if any veins need a more aggressive treatment. Varicose veins often require endovenous prior to Sclerotherapy treatments.

WHAT AREAS CAN BE TREATED?

Sclerotherapy is preferred to treat spider veins on your hands, arms and legs. For facial veins we prefer alternative treatments such as the Excel V laser.

HOW LONG DOES THE PROCEDURE TAKE AND HOW MANY TREATMENTS?

Treatment usually takes 30 minutes and is scheduled in 4-6 week intervals. Treatment plans often vary but it is commonly recommended to treat each area 3-5 times to ensure adequate results. Customized packages are available based on individual patient needs

IS THERE ANY DOWNTIME?

There is little to no downtime. It is recommended that the treated area be compressed 24-48 hours immediately after treatment to keep veins constricted. Compression stockings should be worn for up to 1-2 weeks. Physical activity should also be reduced during this recovery time.

IS IT PAINFUL?

Most say the discomfort is very minimal. Topical anesthesia is not commonly used for this procedure.

WHAT ARE COMMON SIDE EFFECTS?

Redness around the injection site and minor bruising may occur and usually disappear in time.