

Ultrasound Guided Sclerotherapy

- Ultrasound Guided Sclerotherapy is a medical procedure that is used to close unwanted veins by injecting a sclerosing chemical agent into the vein with the purpose of destroying the targeted veins. The inside of the blood vessel closes down so that blood no longer flows through the vessel.
- Ultrasound Guided Sclerotherapy is often required after Endovenous Laser Ablation (EVLA) to get rid of the collateral saphenous veins that, if left untreated, could result in EVLA treatment failure. Ultrasound guidance is used by the treating Phlebologist to direct a small needle in to these veins since they are rarely visible on the skin's surface.
- During an ultrasound guided sclerotherapy procedure, mild discomfort may occur. A burning or cramping sensation may be felt for a couple minutes when the veins are injected with the sclerosing agent.
- The procedure takes less than an hour to perform. You will be asked to walk on a treadmill for 20 minutes following the treatment.
- Ultrasound guided sclerotherapy works well for most patients. However, more than one treatment may be required to completely close all vessel segments.
- Varicose veins usually resolve in 3 to 6 months. Veins that respond to sclerotherapy injection treatment usually will not reappear. However, new veins may appear over time as blood flow shifts occur in the tissues. If clinically indicated, these veins may also be treated by ultrasound guided sclerotherapy.

Follow-up Treatment Sessions

- Your Phlebologist will decide the treatment interval for your Ultrasound guided sclerotherapy needs. In general, sessions are scheduled at a treatment interval of 1-2 months following your EVLA procedure.
- The ultrasound guided sclerotherapy procedure is done typically over a two session period, treating just one leg per session, unless both can be done safely and completely while using a maximum of 10 milliliters of the FDA-cleared sclerosing agent, sodium tetradecyl sulfate.
- It is important to remember that it took years to create your varicose veins, and it will take months to effectively treat your varicose veins with the minimally invasive procedures at your disposal.
- Compliance with recommended compression stockings will optimize the effectiveness of your sclerotherapy treatment sessions.

Pretreatment Instructions

- Remember to bring your compression stocking to each session.
- Be prepared to walk after the treatment session by wearing appropriate and comfortable foot wear.
- Avoid using lotion on your legs for 3 days before and after your session.
- Avoid taking aspirin, NSAIDS (such as Advil, Ibuprofen, Motrin, Aleve, Naproxen) for one week prior to your sclerotherapy session.
- **No sun exposure to your legs two weeks before or after treatment.**



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