

VARICOSE VEINS

In some cases, a vascular surgeon will recommend additional treatments for ridding the legs of **VARICOSE VEINS**:



• **Sclerotherapy** is the sealing of the veins via an injection of a medication. This procedure is done mainly for smaller spider veins. It is performed in a doctor's office. The physician injects a chemical into the varicose veins to prevent the veins from filling with blood.



• **Vein Stripping** is performed for more involved varicose veins. The physician may make two small incisions, one in the groin area and another below the knee, through which the diseased veins are removed. This is an outpatient procedure, usually done under general anesthesia. Patients can resume their normal activities after four weeks.



BEFORE

AFTER



• **Ablation and laser treatment** are performed on patients with severe varicose veins. They are done under local or general anesthetic. The ablation procedure inserts a thin, flexible catheter into the leg vein. The tip of the catheter has tiny electrodes that heat and seal off the walls of the vein.

Laser treatments use a tiny fiber placed in the vein through a catheter. The fiber sends out laser energy that closes the diseased portion of the vein. These two modes of treatment frequently replace stripping of the saphenous vein. They can be performed alone or in conjunction with removal of individual clusters of varicose veins known as small incision avulsion or ambulatory phlebectomy.

Practice or Doctor's Name _____

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