

## Consent for Endovascular Laser Vein Ablation

**Treatment Information:** Endovascular Laser Vein Ablation is a minimally invasive procedure for treating incompetent or leaking veins. Under ultrasound guidance a laser fiber is placed inside the non functioning vein. The area around the vein is then anesthetized. The laser is then activated and slowly pulled back to destroy the vein. This will stop the leakage of blood into the veins in your legs and in most instances will improve your symptoms. Following the procedure a compression stocking will be placed on your leg. Please closely follow the instructions we will give to you before leaving. The success of the procedure is dependant on wearing the stockings as much as possible.

Varicose veins and spider veins are chronic and recurrent conditions. The variety of treatments that are available will improve symptoms and appearances in over 90% of patients. Often more than one than one procedure will be required to achieve optimal results. Also, it is not unusual for you to develop new varicose and spider veins several in the future. Depending on your symptoms, these may require treatment in the future.

**Potential Risks and Side Effects:** Laser ablation is a very safe and effective procedure. There are very small risks of infection, allergic reaction, and bleeding. After the procedure, the leg along the treated are will be sore and there maybe bruising. This will resolve within 4-6 weeks in most patients. Rarely, this bruising may take as long as 6-12 months to completely resolve. You will also experience tugging or pulling sensation in the treated area. This will go away over the next 4 - 6 weeks. Occasionally, there may be hyper pigmentation along the treatment area. The time it takes this to resolve depends on your skin type. Very rare but significant complications due to the procedure include skin burns, deep venous thrombosis (DVT), and never injury.

**Alternative Treatments:** Because varicose veins and spider veins are not life-threatening conditions, surgical treatment is not mandatory in every patient. Some patients get adequate relief of symptoms from wearing graduated support stockings. The other option is to receive no treatment at all. The possible complications of not treating varicose veins include a worsening of the condition with more numerous veins and/or enlargement of existing veins. Large varicose veins may develop thrombophlebitis. Veins that bulge markedly may rupture and bleed. Additionally, skin discoloration and ulcerations may develop in the ankle region of patients with long-standing varicose veins and underlying venous insufficiency.

**(Continued on next page)**

**Informed Consent:** By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read the foregoing information and understand the risks and possible side effects, alternative methods of treatment and I hereby consent to the treatment. I consent to the local anesthesia to be administered.

I know the practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science, and therefore, we cannot guarantee results. While the overwhelming numbers of patients have noted gratifying symptomatic and cosmetic improvement, we cannot promise or guarantee any specific result. I also acknowledge that I have been given ample opportunity to ask questions about my condition and treatment options. By signing below I state that I am 18 years of age or older, or otherwise authorized to consent.

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Signature of Patient or Legal Representative

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Printed Name

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Date/Time

**Physician statement and signature:**

I have explained the procedure(s) stated on this form, including the possible risks, complications, alternative treatments (including non-treatment) and anticipated results to the patient and/or his/her representative. The patient and/or their representative has communicated to me that they understand the contents of this form.

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Physician

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Date/Time

**Interpreter:**

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Interpreter (Name and Signature)