

## Consent for Sclerotherapy

**Treatment Information:** Sclerotherapy is used to eliminate varicose veins, reticular veins and spider veins. A solution, called a sclerosing agent is injected into the abnormal veins. This causes an irritation to the inner lining of the vein resulting in closure of the vein. The treatment works in over 90% of patients.

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 in the future. Depending on your symptoms, these may require treatment in the future.

**Potential Risks and Side Effects:** Sclerotherapy is a very safe and effective treatment. Approximately 20% of patients who undergo sclerotherapy will have discoloration (light brown streaks) after treatment. This usually fades in 4 to 12 months. In rare instances these areas may persist for years. Skin ulceration is very rare complication. These areas will slowly heal and may leave scars. Very rarely, a patient may have an allergic reaction to the sclerosing agent. The risk of this is greater in patients who have a history of allergies.

The treated areas may be tender to the touch. This discomfort is usually temporary. Bruising is very common and to be expected.

Some patients complain of an itchy sensation after treatment, which is also very normal. Trapped blood inside a vein may cause may cause pain and skin discoloration. This can be treated by draining the blood using a tiny needle.

Deep Vein Thrombosis is a very rare complication. The dangers of phlebitis include the possibility of pulmonary embolus and post phlebotic syndrome, resulting in a permanent swelling of the leg.

In rare instances the areas treated may worsen after sclerotherapy.

**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)