

Spider Veins

You, like many people, are embarrassed by these unsightly dark blue, red blotchy or jagged networks of tiny spider veins in the legs so you cover them up year-round. The good news is that spider veins are treatable using injections or safe laser technology – and easier to treat than other varicose veins. These cosmetic treatment options are gentle, virtually pain free and eliminates or greatly diminishes the appearance of spider veins and will increase your confidence.

Spider veins are similar to varicose veins, but smaller and just below the skin surface. These veins can appear at any age and are common among women. They frequently appear during or after pregnancy and can be associated with weight gain. This extra physical burden weakens the valves in the veins carrying blood back to the heart, so the blood pools and the veins swell. When only small, surface veins are affected they generally do not bulge or cause pain but they can range from little patches to very large areas.

How are spider veins treated?

The veins are very small, there can be hundreds or thousands of them, and they do not present a significant health risk that requires surgery. Until recently, spider veins went untreated, but today we offer two gentle, technically-advanced and effective treatments; sclerotherapy or surface laser therapy. The treatments shrink or let the body absorb the damaged spider veins, leaving behind flawless skin.

What is sclerotherapy?

Sclerotherapy involves using a tiny needle to inject individual spider veins with a solution that makes them shrink. As they shrink, blood channels to deeper veins,

making the spider veins on the surface almost invisible. The vast majority of patients who have sclerotherapy experience significant improvement in the appearance of their veins.

What is surface laser therapy?

Surface laser therapy uses an extremely accurate laser to painlessly deliver pulses of light energy to the spider veins on the surface of the skin, which causes the blood inside the veins to coagulate. The veins are eventually destroyed and gradually absorbed by the body, which redirects blood flow to veins deeper below the skin's surface, leaving behind clear, unblemished skin.

How long do the treatments take?

The number of treatments needed to clear or improve your spider veins depends on their amount and severity. The average treatment is three to five sessions. Smaller veins may disappear after the first session. However, severe cases may require as many or ten or more sessions: in some cases, a vein may need to be injected one to five times or more, over a period of weeks or months. Multiple areas can be treated during each session, reducing the total number of treatments needed. In general, you'll see an overall improvement within weeks or months.

Spider vein treatments do not prevent development of new spider veins over the years. Pregnancy, high estrogen levels or jobs that require a lot of standing may increase the likelihood that spider veins will reappear. Many people require additional treatments from time to time to keep their legs clear.

Will my health insurance cover the treatment?

In most cases, spider vein treatment is considered a cosmetic procedure, not medical, so it is not covered by insurance companies. You should check and verify what varicose vein treatment options are included in your individual plan.

Call (804) 828-6986 for more information or to schedule a consultation.

