



SCLEROTHERAPY - TREATMENT OF SMALL THREAD VEINS

A simple and
painless solution

Small thread veins on the legs or cheeks may seem fairly trivial to some people. But if you are unhappy with these unsightly and often embarrassing blemishes, you will be pleased to learn that they can be treated by an effective non-surgical technique known as sclerotherapy.

While sclerotherapy has been established for many years, recent developments in the technology has significantly improved its application and effectiveness.

Using the finest needle available (no wider than the thickness of a human hair) a solution is injected into the thread vein and gentle pressure is applied. The solution causes the vein to go into a minor spasm followed by atrophy (wasting away) and eventually, over the next few weeks, the vein disappears completely. If more than one area is to be treated, this is usually done one month apart.

Sclerotherapy is a remarkably simple procedure which involves no more than minor discomfort during treatment. If you'd like to find out more, talk to one of our nurse counsellors who will be happy to discuss the treatment in full. They will advise you on the best course of action and show you photographs of patients before and after treatment.



RED VEIN TREATMENT

SCLEROTHERAPY - NEW TREATMENT FOR LEG VEINS

Spider or red veins, of the legs is a common problem, particularly affecting women. These small veins can form anywhere on the leg, from the top of the thigh to the ankle. While these veins do not pose any major health problems, they may cause discomfort and be unsightly.

Today a simple treatment called sclerotherapy is successfully being used to correct unwanted spider veins of the legs.

WHAT IS SCLEROTHERAPY?

This is a procedure in which a doctor, using a syringe with a tiny needle, injects a small amount of solution directly into the spider vein.

The solution displaces the blood within the vein causing it to turn white. The solution causes the vessels to become irritated and swell shut, stopping the blood from re-entering the vein. Following the injection a pressure bandage may be applied, depending on the size of the vein. Each vein may require several treatments and most will disappear within six weeks to two months after treatment.

IS THE TREATMENT PAINFUL?

Patients report a little discomfort, with a slight to moderate burning sensation which disappears within a few seconds.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?

Most patients experience no adverse effects, however some minor side effects have been reported. These include slight raised areas at the site of injection which heal within a day or so. Occasionally, a small dark area of pigmentation resembling a freckle may remain. These spots, however, usually resolve in time or respond to treatment with bleaching agents.

Bruising around the treated area usually resolves rapidly. Development of networks of fine red vessels near the site of injection of larger vessels. Most resolve spontaneously, some resolve with injection treatment.

Allergic reactions to the treatment are rare, but easily treated.

WHAT CAUSES SPIDER VEINS AND CAN THEY BE PREVENTED?

No one knows for certain why some people are affected and others not. However, families seem to be predisposed to the condition. Injury to the leg may contribute to the formation and long periods of sitting or standing may also be causative factors.

More women than men seem to develop this condition perhaps as a result of pregnancy or hormones. Use of support hose, weight control and exercise may be beneficial in prevention.

WILL TREATED VEINS RECUR?

Spider veins may recur. Often, however, it may seem that a previously injected vessel has recurred, when in fact a new spider vein has appeared in the same area.

Today, thousands of people who have felt self-conscious or embarrassed by unsightly spider veins of the legs are delighted with the results they are getting from sclerotherapy. If you are interested in learning more about it please call and we will be happy to answer your questions.