

In About An Hour

Without Surgery



You may have had them for a while – the swollen ropey veins tracing lines up your legs. Chances are that your mother or father had them too; varicose veins are often hereditary. They also tend to occur in people who stand for long periods of time, have had multiple pregnancies, or are overweight.

Varicose veins may start out nearly symptom-free. If you don't mind the way they look, you might not even think about them. However, varicose veins tend to become increasingly irritating over time, growing to cause throbbing, aching and tired legs. The veins will never go away by themselves, and will continue to worsen until they are treated. If the condition is not treated, over the long term, skin can break down from the constant tension produced by the swelling.

## Non-Surgical Treatment Options



Years ago, patients typically faced invasive surgery to treat their varicose veins by "stripping," or having the veins removed from their leg to allow the bloodflow to redirect to healthier veins. But new technology has greatly improved the patient experience for varicose vein treatment.

Now two different treatment options exist that are administered by a vascular specialist in the office, and completed in about an hour. Patients are up and walking immediately following the procedure and can return to work and other daily activities soon after.

Radiofrequency ablation treatment is delivered under local anesthetic using a thin catheter that is inserted into the diseased vein through a tiny cut in the skin. The catheter collapses the vein with a series of heated electrical pulses. The blood flow is automatically rerouted through healthier adjacent veins, restoring healthy circulation and reducing swelling. The collapsed vein becomes scar tissue and is absorbed by the body. This treatment has been in use since 1999, and is covered by most medical insurance.

Endovenous laser treatment is very similar to radiofrequency ablation – it is performed under local anesthetic using a thin catheter to collapse the diseased vein, and delivers consistently good results with only a one-hour appointment for the treatment and an almost immediate return to daily activities. The differences between the two treatments are the form of energy used to collapse the vein – while radiofrequency ablation uses electricity, endovenous laser treatment uses a laser. Each treatment has slightly different pros and cons, which can be weighed based on your individual condition with the guided expertise of your doctor.



## When Should I Get My Varicose Veins Treated – and Where?



## **Choosing the Right Vein Specialist for You**

There is no reason to wait to get your varicose veins treated. Even small spider veins at the base of your leg may be caused by larger veins higher up that cannot be seen. While compression stockings may be worn to help alleviate some of the symptoms of varicose veins, such as the aching and tiredness, they cannot heal or offer long-term relief.

Many health providers now offer some type of vein treatment, but not all are equally qualified to diagnose and treat vein disease.

It is important for patients to find a qualified vascular surgeon who uses ultrasound to accurately diagnose your condition. This will provide a comprehensive look at your entire vascular system, identifying the causes of your varicose veins that may not be visible on the skin's surface, and ensure you receive the optimal treatment and outcomes for your unique needs.

As soon as you undergo this quick, non-surgical treatment, you will begin to notice the improvements to your quality of life: greater comfort doing daily activities such as exercising, walking, mowing the grass, and standing at work – and you can feel more confident about your legs' appearance without the visible lines of varicose veins.





## EAST TENNESSEE'S ONLY COMPREHENSIVE OPTION FOR VASCULAR AND VEIN TREATMENTS

Schedule a free in-person varicose vein consultation with Premier Vein Clinic's fellowship-trained vascular surgeons, and get more detailed information about varicose veins and their treatment, by visiting **premierveinclinics.com** Or contact one of Premier Vein Clinic's offices in the Knoxville, Tennessee area by calling **865-588-8229**.

Schedule A Free Consultation Now >

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