

Understanding Vein Disease & Treatment FAQ

Q. How can I be sure I have a vein problem?

A. Most people are able to recognize the beginning signs of vein disease on their own. Their legs may ache, itch, feel heavy or cramp. They may also have dilated veins, skin discoloration, swelling, or ulcers (sores around the ankles). Some people also have spider veins, varicose veins (bulging and blue) or larger veins under the skin which cause them some degree of discomfort. Many patients seek treatment for visual improvement of their legs.

Q. What happens if I leave my veins untreated?

A. Vein disease never gets better. It will only stay the same or get worse. If you have beginning signs of vein disease it is best for you to consult with our vein specialists before complications occur. It is easier to treat vein disease earlier to improve either leaks or symptoms.

Q. How will my vein disease be treated?

A. Each patient's vein disease is assessed and an individual plan for treatment is recommended. We offer recommendations for your vein problems that may be non-surgical or surgical. Whatever the solution to your particular vein problem, it will be the least invasive treatment available.

Treatment may involve newly developed thin supportive stockings, ultrasound directed sclerotherapy (vein injections), or a same-day outpatient procedure involving minimal incisions using light visualization and scopes. The goals of these procedures are to improve cosmetic appearance, completely resolve symptoms and minimize recurrence of vein disease with minimal discomfort and time.

Most procedures are performed with local anesthesia and sedation. There are usually no incisions, just 1 or 2 needle sticks.

Q. Will treatment of my veins require many days away from work and other daily activities?

A. No. The expertise of our vein specialists who have pioneered the newest minimally invasive techniques for the treatment of vein disease allows us to provide expert treatment on an outpatient basis. You should be back to your daily routine within a few days. Exercise (swimming, running, gym activities, etc.) can be resumed in as little as 2-3 days.

Q. Why is The Center for Vein Disease at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center Special?

A. Our patients benefit from the experience and expertise of our vascular surgeons who are among the first in the United States to perform the most minimally invasive techniques, right here at Englewood Hospital.

In fact, the training sessions offered at our Center for Vein Disease draws vascular surgeons from many parts of the United States who come here to learn our cutting edge techniques. In addition, our leadership position in this field has already made it possible for our patients to benefit from early clinical trials of many new vein procedures. You are not only treated here, you are treated by experts.

Q. What if I still have questions about Vein Disease & Treatment?

A. For more information, call the Center for Vein Disease at 201-894-3252.