

Vein & Laser Center of New England

45 Resnik Rd, Suite 305

Plymouth, Ma 02360

Phone 508 747-1333

Fax 508 747-2850

Details of the Laser Ablation Procedure for Extremity Veins

- **The procedure is performed in the Vein Center under local anesthesia with sedation**
- **You will be asked to bring the sedative with you to the office. We will direct you on when to take your medication**
- **You may bring your favorite CD's along to listen to during the procedure**
- **You may have someone wait for you during the procedure but it is very acceptable to have that person wait at home for a pickup call**
- **The average procedure takes 2 hours, depending on whether a microphlebectomy will be performed at the same time**
- **Once you arrive in the office, you will be asked to stand to allow your veins to dilate**
- **In the procedure room, the vein to be occluded will be marked with a marking pen under ultrasound guidance**
- **If a microphlebectomy is to be performed, point out those veins that are a particular bother to you so these veins can be marked as well**
- **Once on the stretcher, your leg will be cleansed with an iodine solution to the groin. Please make us aware of any iodine or seafood allergy Please bring or wear high cut underwear to the procedure. These may be permanently stained from the prep**
- **An IV will be placed in a vein at the level of the knee. This will usually entail a pinch of local anesthetic in the skin**
- **Under ultrasound guidance, the laser fiber will be passed up the vein to "Mickey Mouse's ear". There should be little or no discomfort with this maneuver**
- **Once the laser tip is in place, you will feel slight pinpricks as the local anesthetic is applied to the skin. Following the local anesthetic, the entire length of vein will be injected with a high volume of anesthetic solution.**

- **At this point you and the staff will put on special glasses that are required whenever a laser is in use**
- **The laser will then be turned on and slowly withdrawn down the length of the vein. This usually takes about 3-6 minutes. Occasionally, you may feel a burning sensation. Let us know and more anesthetic will be applied to the vein**
- **If you are undergoing a simultaneous microphlebectomy, multiple small puncture wounds or small incisions will be made over the dilated secondary veins. These veins will then be removed to complete the procedure**
- **Upon completion of the procedure your leg will be wrapped in a “3 layer” dressing consisting of gauze, elastic wrap and an ace bandage. This may be substituted for an elastic compression dressing**
- **You will be held for approximately 30’ to make sure that there is no leakage through the dressing and that you are steady enough on your feet from the sedation to walk out of the office and return home.**