

## Foam Sclerotherapy Permit

Foam sclerotherapy is the combination of known sclerotherapy solutions (used to treat smaller spider veins) with air to create a microfoam solution.

This foam solution allows treatment of larger veins previously only treatable with more invasive surgical procedures.

Foam is injected into a vein resulting in displacement of blood within the vessel. This allows direct contact of the sclerosing solution with the vessel wall. The result is permanent damage to the vein and eventual absorption by the body, depending on the size of the vessel, over a period of time.

Foam is injected into the vein with a small IV needle. It is usually less painful than the drawing of blood. For the treatment of large bulging varicosities, foam is directed to the target vessel under ultrasound guidance.

Foam can also be used to treat the larger feeding vessels that are responsible for the development of spider veins. These veins are usually identified by Veinlite illumination prior to inserting a small needle to allow injection of the solution.

Upon completion of therapy and prior to standing, the patient must wear an appropriate compression stocking. This stocking must be worn without removal for approximately 24 – 48 hours and then on a daily basis for the length of time indicated by the Vein Center staff. Failure to comply with this aspect of therapy can render the treatment ineffective.

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

As in all medical therapies, complications or side effects are possible. Some but not all of these include:

Deep phlebitis or “clot”. This complication occurs very infrequently in foam therapy, significantly less than 1% of cases treated. If it occurs, patients may need to be hospitalized and treated with blood thinners. Deep phlebitis should not be confused with inflammation that occurs in the palpable varicose veins lying just under the skin. The incidence of phlebitis in foam therapy is less than in most other surgical procedures including, for example, vein stripping or appendectomy performed under anesthesia.

Staining- browning discoloration of the skin overlying a treated vein. This usually will resolve over a period of months to a year.

Skin ulceration- very uncommon but could lead to treatment of the wound and a resultant scar

Nausea, dry cough, chest pressure or visual disturbances. Always self-limiting with no lingering side effects.

Headaches - usually only seen in patients with a history of migraines. Self-limiting.

Allergic reactions – no more common than with any other medication

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Contraindications to any form of sclerotherapy include the following:

Pregnancy

Lactation

Multiple severe allergies (relative contraindication)

Bleeding or clot disorders (including among family members)

Air travel within 48 hrs

Valvular heart disease

Severe bronchial asthma

**Please make the staff aware if you have any of the above conditions prior to giving consent.**

I would like to be given a detailed medical article that reviews the results and complications of foam sclerotherapy: Please circle:

YES

NO

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Foam sclerotherapy has been proven to be a safe and effective treatment for varicose veins of all sizes. No guarantee can be given to the success of therapy. Failure of veins to respond or to reappear over time does occur. However, The New England Vein & Laser Center is committed to do everything possible to make your treatment both a successful and satisfying one.

I have reviewed the above medical permit and give consent to have my varicose veins treated with foam sclerotherapy.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_