



Venous Reflux Disease & VenaSeal™ Procedure Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS VENOUS REFLUX DISEASE?

Venous reflux disease, also known as chronic venous disease, develops when the valves in the leg veins stop working properly and allow blood to flow backward (or reflux) and pool in the lower leg veins. Symptoms can worsen over time if venous reflux disease is left untreated.

WHAT ARE SOME SYMPTOMS OF VENOUS REFLUX DISEASE?

- Varicose veins
- Leg heaviness and fatigue
- Leg pain, aching or cramping
- Skin changes or rashes
- Leg or ankle swelling
- Ulcers, open wounds or sores

HOW COMMON IS VENOUS REFLUX DISEASE?

Venous reflux disease affects more than 30 million Americans and up to 40 percent of adults. Varicose veins are more common in those who are overweight and in women who have had more than two pregnancies. Up to 55 percent of women may be affected by varicose veins in their lifetime and women may have multiple risk factors for the development of varicose veins.

HOW IS VENOUS REFLUX DISEASE TREATED?

Venous reflux disease treatment aims to reduce or stop the backward flow of blood. Treating the diseased vein improves overall blood flow and relieves symptoms. Closing or removing the diseased vein may be necessary to improve blood flow and re-directs blood to nearby healthy veins.

WHAT IS THE VENASEAL™ CLOSURE SYSTEM?

The VenaSeal™ closure system treats symptomatic venous reflux disease in the lower extremity superficial venous system. The VenaSeal™ closure system is the only non-thermal, non-tumescent, non-sclerosant procedure approved for use in the U.S. that uses a specially-formulated medical adhesive that closes the diseased vein.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT OF THE VENASEAL™ PROCEDURE?

Before the Procedure:

You will have an ultrasound imaging exam of the leg that is to be treated. This exam is important for assessing the diseased superficial vein and planning the procedure.

During the Procedure:

- You may feel some minor pain or stinging with a needle stick to numb the site where the doctor will access your vein.
- Once the area is numb, your doctor will insert the small hollow tube (i.e. catheter) into your leg. You may feel some pressure from the placement of the catheter.
- The catheter will be placed in specific areas along the diseased vein to deliver small amounts of the medical adhesive. You may feel some mild sensation of pulling or tugging. Ultrasound will be used during the procedure to guide and position the catheter.
- After treatment, the catheter is removed and a bandage is placed over the puncture site.

After the Procedure:

You will be taken to the recovery area to rest. Your doctor will discuss with you what observations will be performed following treatment.

WHEN WILL MY SYMPTOMS IMPROVE?

Symptoms are caused by the diseased superficial vein. Thus, symptoms may improve as soon as the diseased vein is closed.

WHEN CAN I RETURN TO NORMAL ACTIVITY?

The VenaSeal™ procedure is designed to reduce recovery time. Many patients return to normal activity immediately after the procedure. Your doctor can help you determine when you can return to normal activity.

IS THE VENASEAL™ PROCEDURE PAINFUL?

Most patients feel little, if any, pain during the outpatient procedure.

IS THERE BRUISING AFTER THE VENASEAL™ PROCEDURE?

Most patients report little-to-no bruising after the VenaSeal™ procedure.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE VENASEAL™ ADHESIVE AFTER IT IS IN MY BODY?

Only a very small amount of VenaSeal™ adhesive is used to close the vein. Your body will naturally absorb the adhesive over time.

HOW DOES THE VENASEAL™ PROCEDURE DIFFER FROM THERMAL ENERGY PROCEDURES?

The VenaSeal™ procedure uses an adhesive to close the superficial vein. Thermal energy procedures use heat to close the vein.

IS THE VENASEAL™ PROCEDURE COVERED BY INSURANCE?

As with any procedure, insurance coverage may vary. For more information, please contact your insurance provider.