

What is Laser Vein Treatment?

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Laser therapy is a proven treatment for treating unsightly broken and dilated vessels as well as other unwanted vascular lesions, such as facial redness, port wine stains and other vascular birthmarks. In fact, the latest advances in laser technology have given us a method for removal that is safer, faster and more effective than previous methods.

How Does Laser Vein Treatment Work?

Lasers work by emitting a specialized light that is passed through the skin and preferentially absorbed by its target, be it an unwanted hair, birthmark, tattoo or in this case, the hemoglobin (the red portion of blood) in the unwanted vessels. The laser causes the vein to break up and disappear. There are several lasers available that work remarkably well in treating unwanted veins.

What Laser Should I Choose?

Skin Laser & Surgery Specialists of New York & New Jersey are proud to offer a wide variety of laser/light sources to treat unwanted vascular lesions. This allows us to treat the widest variety of patients and situations. Each option performs best for different types of patients and needs. Dr. Goldberg will assess the laser that is best for you.

What Can I Expect With the Procedure?

Most people describe the treatment feeling like a rubber band snap. You may be given a topical anesthetic cream to numb the area to be treated. Any discomfort can be eased with the application of cool compresses. After treatment, you can immediately return to normal activities.

How Soon Will I See Results?

Because laser vein treatment works by causing the unwanted vein to break up and dissolve, resolution of the unwanted vein or redness will take place over the course of several weeks and may require several laser treatments.

What Are The Side Effects?

The most common side effect is bruising, or purpura, around the treated area. This will resolve within days of the treatment, and occurs only with some lasers used. Many of the vascular lasers used by Dr. Goldberg are cosmetically elegant and do not lead to any bruising. Dr. Goldberg will be happy to discuss any other risks of laser surgery with you personally.

Will Insurance Cover This Procedure?

Laser vein treatments like other cosmetic procedures are not usually covered by your insurance company. If you have any questions, it is best to talk with your provider.

What Is The Cause Of Spider Veins?

Spider veins can occur on any area of the body, but are most common on the legs and face. The exact cause of spider veins is not known, but it has been shown that there is a genetic component to spider veins. While spider veins can occur in both men and women, they are more common in females. It seems as if the hormones estrogen and progesterone play a role in the development of spider veins. Changes in body chemistry such as puberty, birth control pills, menopause, and hormone therapy can bring them on. Constrictive clothing, such as tight hosiery and girdles can also cause spider vein development. The spider veins that appear on the face can also be the result of too much sun exposure.

Will The Laser Treat Leg Veins?

Smaller leg veins (up to 3 mm) may respond well to lasers and laser-like devices. Sclerotherapy may be more appropriate for treating some leg veins. Dr. Goldberg will assess your specific situation.

How Do I Get Started?

Dr. Goldberg and his staff will be happy to discuss this procedure with you. Please feel free to call for a private consultation.

David J. Goldberg, M.D. (<http://www.skinandlasers.com/>) is on faculty and Director of both MOHS Surgery, and Laser Research, Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York; and Director of Skin Laser & Surgery Specialists of New York & New Jersey. He is past President of the American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery. Dr. Goldberg was voted "one of the top ten laser surgeons in the U.S." by Self Magazine and "one of the best doctors in America" by Woodward/White, Inc.