



## **Ambulatory Phlebectomy**

You have been diagnosed with varicose veins that are amenable to treatment with ambulatory phlebectomy. Here at the Salem Skin and Vein Specialists we are proud to be able to offer this as part of our complete package of minimally invasive treatment options. Whether this is the only treatment you will have, or part of a series of treatments, we know you will be satisfied with the results.

On the day of your procedure we recommend you have someone else drive you. Please be certain to bring your compression stockings with you on this day as they will be used at the end of the procedure. You should notify us if you are on any blood thinners including Warfarin/Coumadin/Jantoven aspirin, and Plavix.

This minimally invasive procedure consists of several steps. First your leg will be marked in the standing position to identify the veins to be removed. Next your leg will be prepped and draped in a sterile fashion. A combination of medications will be infiltrated around the veins using a small needle. These medications will numb the veins and help reduce bruising. Next, very small incisions will be made over the veins and a small surgical hook will be used to remove them in segments. The number of incisions is based on the extent of your varicose veins.

Following the procedure, the incisions will be closed with steri-strips which may be removed in 7-10 days. Your leg will be wrapped with a multilayer dressing that should stay in place for 48 hours. After that, you may remove your dressing and begin wearing your compression stockings. Specific post-op instructions will be given at the time of your procedure.

Following ambulatory phlebectomy, some bruising will occur. The degree of bruising varies from patient to patient. Any discomfort can be controlled with over the counter anti-inflammatory medication.

Complications can include bleeding, infection, staining of the skin, and nerve injury. All of these are rare events. Small scars from the incisions will be visible initially but will fade over the next 3-12 months.

You will be seen approximately 4 weeks after the procedure. At that time, most of your bruising should be resolved and your incisions healed. You will be examined for healing and the presence of any residual veins. Plans for follow-up procedures to include sclerotherapy may be made at that time.

We feel confident that you will be very satisfied with the results of your ambulatory phlebectomy. The entire staff of the Salem Skin and Vein Specialists is here to meet your needs and exceed your expectations. If you have any questions, problems, or comments, please let us know.