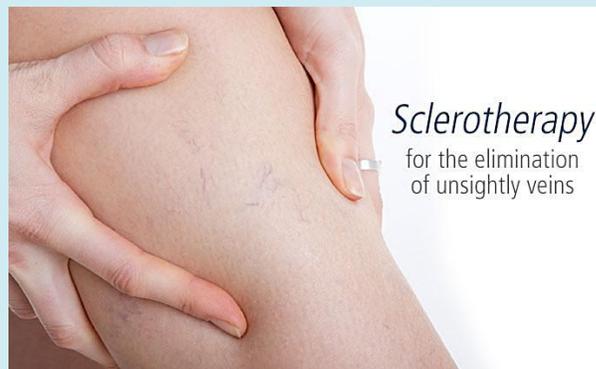


## Spider Vein Treatments

Talk to any woman with spider veins on her legs, and she'll probably tell you that they're the bane of her existence. And if you're one of the women who has them, you're not alone: Close to 55 percent of women have some type of vein problem, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health.

A combination treatment of sclerotherapy and laser usually does best for those small yet unsightly clusters of blue, red, or purple veins. Sclerotherapy is a simple procedure, where veins are injected with a sclerosing solution, which causes the veins to collapse and fade from view. Our vascular laser (Nd:YAG) is ideal for vessels around the ankles or capillaries that are too small to treat with sclerotherapy.

\*Pricing dependent upon density and quantity of vessels, with pricing typically starting around \$250 per session.



## About Sclerotherapy

### **What is sclerotherapy?**

Sclerotherapy is a minimally invasive procedure done by your healthcare provider to treat uncomplicated spider veins and uncomplicated reticular veins. The treatment involves the injection of a solution into the affected veins.

### **What are varicose veins?**

Varicose veins are large blue, dark purple veins. They protrude from the skin and many times they have a cord-like appearance and may twist or bulge. Varicose veins are found most frequently on the legs.

### **What are spider veins?**

Spider veins are very small and very fine red or blue veins. They are closer to the surface of the skin than varicose veins. They can look like a thin red line, tree branches or spider webs. Spider veins can be found on the legs and face and may cover a small or large area.

### **What are reticular veins?**

Reticular veins can also be known as feeder veins. They are the blue and green veins beneath the surface of the skin.

Reticular veins enlarge because of increased pressure in the vein. They can be caused by heredity. You may have reticular veins alone but you may also have spider veins at the same time.

## What causes spider and reticular veins?

Spider and reticular veins can be caused by many factors.

- Heredity. Having a family member with prominent veins may increase the risk of you developing them. Approximately half of the people who get varicose veins have a family history of them.
- Age. The normal wear and tear of aging may cause valves in the veins to weaken and not work as well.
- Gender. Women are two to three times more likely to develop varicose veins than men. Up to half of American women have varicose veins. Changes in hormones due to puberty, pregnancy, menopause, or taking birth control pills may increase a woman's risk of developing varicose veins.
- Pregnancy. During pregnancy, the growth of the fetus increases the pressure on the veins in the legs. Varicose veins that occur during pregnancy usually improve within 3 to 12 months following delivery.
- Overweight and obesity. Having extra weight on the body can put additional pressure on the veins.
- Prolonged standing or sitting. This is particularly true with legs bent or crossed. When standing or sitting with legs bent or crossed, the veins have to work harder to pump the blood up to the heart.

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