

## **LASER VEIN INFORMATION**

### **What is laser vein removal?**

Laser technology offers a very effective means of treating spider veins. The laser has a unique ability to selectively target blood vessels without adversely affecting surrounding tissue. The vessels are gently heated, causing the blood in the vessels to clot. The body reabsorbs the treated blood vessels during the natural healing process.

### **Will laser therapy work on my veins?**

The Excell laser can treat spider veins, reticular veins (deeper blue veins) and facial veins. We offer a complimentary consultation to evaluate and access your veins. Prior surgery or treatment on your veins could affect the treatment outcome.

### **What does it feel like?**

Although many patients report little or no discomfort, some may experience a mild stinging sensation only when the laser pulse is delivered. The cold tip on the hand piece helps soothe the skin before and after the laser energy is delivered.

### **How long will the treatment take?**

Treatment time should be 15 to 30 minutes but may vary depending on the number and size of the vessel(s) to be treated.

### **How many treatments will I need?**

Depending upon the severity of the veins, you may require between 1 and 3 laser treatments, spaced at 6 weeks apart. The treatment is performed on the existing blood vessels, diminishing or completely eliminating their appearance. However, any new developing veins cannot be prevented. If your body tends to develop vascular problems, you will probably have to return for further treatments.

### **What happens to the skin after the treatment?**

Patients may experience some temporary redness, swelling or bruising. This doesn't happen often, and is typically gone within a few hours. Others may experience pigmentary changes in skin color, but these will disappear and return to normal over time. Since laser treatment does not burn or cut the skin in any way, no bandages are necessary.

### **When can I resume normal activities?**

Although we encourage you to resume normal activities almost immediately, we do ask that you refrain from vigorous exercise and avoid hot tubs for at least 24 hours post treatment. Also avoid direct sun exposure after treatment and if you do go in the sun, protect the treated area with a minimum SPF 30 Sun Block (not sunscreen). If treating facial veins avoid any irritants to your skin, such as any products containing Retin-A, retinol, benzoyl peroxide, glycolic/salicylic acids or astringents for one week before and after your treatment.