

Seton Medical Center
1850 Sullivan Ave, Suite 300
Daly City, CA 94015
Phone 650-991-1122
Fax 415-744-1199

San Francisco Vein Center
Melinda L Aquino MD
www.sfveincenter.com

St Mary's Medical Center
2250 Hayes Street Ste 612
San Francisco, CA 94117
Phone 415-752-1122
Fax 415-744-1199

Patient Consent and Understanding for Sclerotherapy

- **Sclerotherapy can make your legs look worse before they get better and often involves bruising**
- **Results vary. Around 20% of patients may achieve only fair results, even after multiple treatments.**
- **Up to three treatments may be needed for optimal results.**
- **Sclerotherapy may cause discomfort and is not recommended for those highly intolerant to pain.**

What is Sclerotherapy?

Sclerotherapy involves injecting a medication (sclerosing agent) into spider or varicose veins using very small needles. This causes the vein to close by irritating its lining. Most patients describe the sensation as mild, like an ant bite. While many achieve satisfying results, outcomes cannot be guaranteed. Rarely, the condition may worsen. The number of treatments depends on the severity of the veins as everyone's individual response can be different.

Common Side Effects:

- Temporary tenderness or itching along treated veins.
- Bruising is common and to be expected
- Discoloration caused by trapped blood, which may last up to a year.

Less Common Risks:

- **Hyperpigmentation:** Dark streaks or spots which usually fade but may be permanent in rare cases.
- **Matting:** A rare reaction (less than 1%) causing pink discoloration resembling a bruise. This is not harmful and may improve with laser treatment.
- **Skin Ulceration:** Rarely, blisters can form and lead to ulcers, which may scar.
- **Allergic Reaction:** Extremely rare but possible, especially in those with allergy histories.
- **Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT):** A very rare complication associated with large vein treatments or foam sclerotherapy, which we do not perform.
- Very rarely, a patient may have an allergic reaction. Risk is greater in patients who have a history of allergies.

Alternatives to Treatment

Spider and varicose veins are not life-threatening, and treatment is optional. Alternatives include wearing compression stockings, laser treatment for small veins, or no treatment at all.

Disclosure and Consent

Medicine is not an exact science, and results cannot be guaranteed. By signing below, I confirm I have read and understand the risks, complications, and alternatives. All my questions have been answered, and I consent to treatment.

Medication Used: Sodium Sotradecol, an FDA-approved sclerosant.

Payment Acknowledgment

I understand I am responsible for all treatment charges. Insurance rarely covers sclerotherapy, and authorization is not a guarantee of payment. It is my responsibility to verify coverage with my insurance company.

Patient or Legal Representative

Printed Name

Date