

PORTLAND SURGICAL ASSOCIATES

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What To Expect: Endovenous Laser/ VNUS Closure/Phlebectomy

The procedure is performed in our office under local anesthesia, and if you request oral sedation.

Bring your oral sedation medication with you.

We will direct you on when to take the medication

You may bring your favorite music and music player with you.

The person providing your transportation may wait with you or return later to pick you up.

The procedure usually takes about two (2) hours.

Once you arrive at the office:

We will ask a few additional questions.

You will stand for a few minutes to allow the leg veins to fill and dilate.

The vein to be occluded will then be marked using ultrasound guidance.

If micro-phlebectomy is to be performed, those veins will also be marked while you are standing.

Once you are marked you will lie down on an OR table:

Your leg will be cleaned and prepped with a special soap (Hibiclens solution)

Please bring or wear loose shorts or high cut underwear or briefs.

An IV type needle will be placed in the vein at about the level of the knee using local anesthesia.

Using ultrasound guidance the laser catheter will be passed up the leg to the thigh region.

Once the catheter is in place:

The skin and tissues over and around the vein will be injected with local anesthesia.

We will ALL (including you) be wearing special protective laser glasses when the laser is in use.

The laser will be “test fired”, if you feel ANY pain you must tell the surgeon!

The laser will be slowly withdrawn from the leg, if you feel ANY pain at ANY time you must tell us.

If you are undergoing micro-phlebectomy:

Multiple small incisions/stab wounds are made over the veins previously marked.

The veins in question are bluntly dissected from beneath the skin and removed.

A suture and/or Steri-Strips will be used to close these tiny incisions.

For either procedure tight elastic compression stockings and dressings will be applied. This dressing must be left on until your first post-operative visit in about 3 days.

You will be observed in the office setting for approximately thirty (30) minutes following the procedure to watch for signs of bleeding or other problems.

We will review all general, and any special, post-operative instructions with you and the person accompanying you