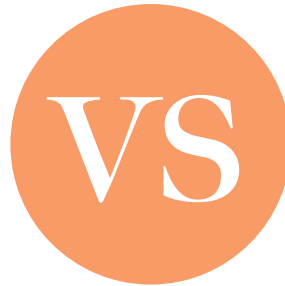


# Endovenous Laser Therapy



# Radiofrequency Ablation Endovenous Therapy



With the help of a board certified vascular surgeon,  
determine which treatment is right for your varicose veins.

What are the options?

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Are you considering treatment  
for your varicose veins?

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Are you looking for a non-invasive approach  
to treat large varicose veins?

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There are many options for the treatment of diseased veins.

Read on to find out about two of your treatment options.

**Your best option** for the treatment of varicose veins depends upon the severity of your condition, your preference and desired outcomes. Radiofrequency Ablation Endovenous Therapy (RFA) and Endovenous Laser Treatment (EVLT) are two options using heat energy to treat the greater saphenous vein (GSV) in the thigh and/or the small saphenous vein (SSV) at the back of the calf. While very similar, there are minor differences in each of these techniques.



# The similarities.



Both EVLT and RFA are performed in office under a local anesthetic. Each procedure utilizes ultrasound technology to guide the physician to proper placement throughout each step of the process. To begin, a tiny needle is guided into the diseased vein and a thin wire is then passed through the needle into the vein. The needle is then removed along the wire and the thin, hollow catheter is threaded onto the wire into the vein.

Once the catheter is in position to treat the area within the vein experiencing abnormal blood flow, the wire is removed. The optic fiber is threaded through the catheter and delivers short bursts of heat energy to close the malfunctioning vein. The physician will slowly remove the catheter, treating each segment until the entire length of the diseased vein has been sealed.

The most critical part of the procedure is ensuring direct contact between the vein wall and the catheter so the vein can be heated enough to damage the walls. During both procedures it is essential to separate the vein from surrounding tissue to ensure precise and a more comfortable procedure for the patient. This is done by injecting fluid around the vein. This leads to slight pressure on the vein and a snug fit around the catheter again promoting optimal treatment of the vein.

# The differences.

The difference lies in the heat source used to treat the vein. For RFA, radiofrequency energy is used to heat and close the vein wall, while during EVLT laser heat is used to achieve the same outcome. Following the heat exposure, the treated veins will form scar tissue closing off the vein and blood flow, eventually causing the vein to dissolve and absorb back into the body.

Recovery for both procedures is similar in that patients are asked to walk around shortly following the procedure and wear compression stockings for one to two weeks. At Premier Vein Clinics, patients generally return for a follow up two weeks after the procedure to ensure proper healing and vein closure.

These procedures are often covered by insurance plans when medical symptoms are present and treatment is deemed necessary following a thorough diagnostic evaluation. Both EVLT and RFA are highly effective in treating varicose veins and are often coupled with sclerotherapy to further reduce visible signs of any spider veins around the treated varicose vein.

# No more pain, no more worry, no more varicose veins.

Treating varicose veins has never been easier.  
Let us restore your healthy, great-looking legs.

start now



Request an appointment with one of our  
Premier Vein Clinics specialist today!

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