

## Varicose Veins are Progressive and Get Worse Over Time If Left Untreated

### COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS!

- ✓ *"I didn't realize symptomatic varicose vein treatment is covered by insurance."*
- ✓ *"I was afraid of vein stripping and didn't know technology has significantly advanced."*
- ✓ *"I didn't think they were a health issue ~ just unattractive"*
- ✓ *"My mother and Aunt had theirs treated years ago and were out of work for six weeks. I can't afford that!"*

You may be one of the 25 million people in the United States suffering from superficial venous reflux disease. Traditionally, patients diagnosed with venous reflux underwent vein stripping surgery. Now, patients can be treated with the VNUS Closurefast® procedure – a minimally invasive and more comfortable alternative to painful vein stripping surgery. Dr. Angelo N. Makris of Makris MD Interventional Radiology Center is one of few physicians in the area to offer this cutting-edge procedure in an effort to provide patients with the safest, least invasive treatments available.

#### What is venous reflux disease?

Venous reflux disease, also known as venous insufficiency, is a medical condition affecting the circulation of blood in the lower extremities. The tiny valves that normally force blood up toward the heart no longer function, causing blood to pool in the leg and the veins to become swollen. This can cause heaviness, aching, and pain in the legs that worsens with prolonged standing. Venous reflux disease commonly produces varicose veins, ranging from small, thin purple lines just under the skin to thick, bulging veins that can protrude beyond the skin's surface. Varicose veins serve as indicators of venous reflux, a progressive disease that can cause significant circulatory problems if left untreated.



Before After

#### What is the VNUS Closurefast® Procedure?

The FDA-approved Closurefast® procedure is a vein ablation procedure performed in-office on an outpatient basis. Using ultrasound, Dr. Makris positions the catheter into the diseased vein. Powered by radio-frequency, the catheter delivers heat to the vein wall. As the thermal energy is delivered, the vein wall shrinks and the vein is sealed closed. Once the diseased vein is closed, blood is re-routed to other healthy veins.

#### How does the VNUS Closure Procedure differ from Laser Vein Ablation (EVLT)?

At Makris MD Interventional Radiology Center, we offer both treatments. However, in a study published by the Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology, VNUS Closurefast® is proven to be "significantly superior" to laser vein ablation (EVLT). Advancements include decreased procedure time and considerably less post-procedure pain.

#### Does my body need the treated veins to function properly?

Our bodies have superficial veins, veins located close to the surface of the skin; deep veins, larger veins located deep in the leg; and perforator veins, veins that connect the superficial veins to the deep veins. The Closure procedure treats venous disease in superficial veins, which are essentially expendable. Our bodies have whole networks of superficial veins, so losing an unhealthy vein is completely safe.

#### What is the recovery time?

Following the procedure, a simple bandage is placed over the insertion site and additional compression may be provided to aid in healing. Most patients walk out of the office and are able to return to work and non-strenuous activities the next day. There may be slight soreness but most patients experience little pain.

#### Does Dr. Makris offer any other vein treatments?

Dr. Makris is experienced in all types of minimally invasive vein treatments, including laser ablation, microphlebectomy, sclerotherapy and ultrasound guided sclerotherapy.

#### Are vein treatments covered by insurance?

Most insurance carriers will cover the initial consultation, the diagnostic ultrasound exam and most of the treatment costs when varicose veins are symptomatic. Dr. Makris and his staff will work with your insurance carrier to get you pre-certified prior to any procedures.

#### What makes Makris MD Interventional Radiology Center unique?

Our experience. Over 11 years ago, Dr. Makris was one of the first doctors to train in minimally invasive vein treatment techniques and one of the first physicians in the Chicagoland area to practice venous ablation. He makes it a top priority to stay up-to-date with the latest technology and is one of few doctors in the area to offer the new VNUS Closurefast® procedure. All services are performed in-office on an outpatient-basis to help you avoid the hassle of the hospital and to allow you a safe, convenient environment that focuses on patient care.

See testimonials from some of our patients at [www.BetterLegsToday.com](http://www.BetterLegsToday.com)

Complimentary Sclerotherapy Session with a Vein Ablation Procedure Expires 11/15/2010



Dr. Angelo N. Makris is Board Certified in Diagnostic Radiology as well as Vascular and Interventional Radiology. In 1990, he earned his medical degree from UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He has authored multiple articles published in prominent medical journals and has taught the techniques of ultrasound guidance to other radiologists through the Radiologic Society of North America. Among his accomplishments, he has been an investigator on multiple industry sponsored trials related to peripheral vascular disease and is a proctor teaching other physicians endovascular techniques related to carotid artery stenting, abdominal aortic aneurysms and venous ablation. He continues to be a thought leader on the forefront of endovascular techniques and is an active member of the Society of Interventional Radiology.



Advanced Care for Varicose Veins



Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations

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