



Minimally Invasive
Procedure Specialists

Laser Ablation and/or Radiofrequency Ablation

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

An ablation uses energy to cauterize and close veins. Ablation is often used to help with pain, leg heaviness, swelling, skin ulcers, skin discoloration or vein swelling.

DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

- After the procedure, sterile gauze and a clear dressing will be placed over the catheter insertion site(s). This dressing may be removed 24 hours after the procedure.
- Wear your compression hose and continue to wear them during waking hours until your follow up appointment.
- Walk every hour for at least a few minutes. If you are able, add a daily 20-30-minute walk.

INFORMATION ON SEDATION

If you received a medication that was used to relax you during your test or procedure, it will be acting in your body for the next 24 hours, so you might feel sleepy and may forget things. This feeling will slowly wear off. Because the drug is still in the body, for the next 24 hours, you:

- SHOULD NOT- Drive a car
- SHOULD NOT- Use machinery or power tools
- SHOULD NOT- Drink any alcoholic beverages (not even beer or wine)
- SHOULD NOT- Take any drugs unless okayed by your doctor
- SHOULD NOT- Decide anything that is important (such as sign important papers)
- SHOULD NOT- Smoke unless someone is near to watch you closely
- SHOULD NOT- Use a hot tub

WHAT TO EXPECT

- You may have mild to moderate pain, or the leg may be tender to the touch.
- It is normal to experience some tenderness or bruising in the areas where a numbing agent was administered. Pain should be well-controlled by Tylenol.
- You may experience some bruising, discoloration, tightness, and a possible pulling sensation along the course of the treated vein(s), beginning 4-5 days after the procedure. This is normal and to be expected.
- You may have a firm, cord-like feeling under the skin along the course of the treated vein(s). This can take several weeks or months to resolve.

If you have questions, contact the Radiology Care Unit at **(303) 738-2734** Monday through Friday from 7:00AM-5:00PM. For urgent matters after hours, call the Radiology Department at **(720) 528-0775** and ask for the MIPS Interventional Radiologist on call.