

FACE AND CHEST VEIN TREATMENT



WHERE DO FACE AND CHEST VEINS COME FROM?

PINK VEINS

The most common veins on the face are the very fine pink veins which occur on the cheeks and around the nose. These occur in some people after extended exposure to sunlight. They give a 'healthy weather-beaten' look. This is not always desirable!

The small pink veins arise in the skin, developing from tiny normal blood vessels. These veins are often too small to be treated by injection and are best managed by IPL (Intense Pulsed Light) or laser treatment. This is effective in removing the veins, but they tend to regrow over time with further exposure to sunlight.

ROSACEA

Patients with rosacea also develop pinkness in the face skin due to an increased number of tiny capillaries in the skin. The acute inflammation of the skin can be managed by appropriate skin creams but this does not make the small vessels go away. Treatment with IPL or laser is effective here as well.

BLUE FACE VEINS

Some people are born with prominent blue veins beneath the skin. These are perfectly normal but can be unsightly if they run across the cheek or other part of the face. After middle age the skin and subcutaneous tissues become thinner allowing veins to become visible underneath. This is often a problem in the region of the temples. All of these veins are perfectly normal and harmless but if they present a cosmetic problem they can be treated by injection of the veins in the same way as leg veins are treated. This is a very effective solution for prominent veins on the face.

CHEST AND BREAST VEINS

Prominent blue veins are common on the chest and breast. Some people consider these unsightly, especially if they appear on an area of skin exposed by some clothing. Again injection treatment works very effectively on these veins. They can usually be eliminated in two or three sessions. Treatment of blue veins on the face and chest causes only minimal discomfort.



IS IT SAFE TO REMOVE BLUE VEINS?

Prominent blue face and chest veins are normal veins – these are not varicose veins which are found in the legs. Their function is to carry blood back from the face and chest. Many veins are present in these regions so the surface veins can be safely injected and destroyed leaving plenty of other healthy veins to carry the blood.

The main potential hazard of this treatment is injecting an artery which may cause severe and extensive damage to the tissues. So the treatment must be done by a very experienced practitioner. We carefully evaluate the circulation in the region of proposed treatment and avoid any underlying artery.

HOW ARE THE BLUE VEINS TREATED?

Thread veins (tiny pink veins) on the face can be addressed by IPL or laser treatment, but the blue type are too large for this to work.

We have injected these veins in many patients with good efficacy. This causes only very minor discomfort since a very fine needle and a mild solution are used for the injections. The aftermath is usually minor bruising which resolves in about 1 week. This can be covered with a makeup if necessary. Usually two sessions of treatment are required to achieve an excellent outcome

Once the region affected by blue veins has been treated it usually remains reasonably free of veins for several years.

COMPLICATIONS FOLLOWING TREATMENT

Significant complications following treatment are very uncommon. There is often some bruising afterwards which settles in a few days to a week.

Drugs used during treatment

The drugs that we most commonly use to treat face and chest veins are Sclerovein (polidocanol) and Fibrovein. These drugs are widely used for the management of varicose veins. We have extensive experience over many years using this treatment and have found it to be the most satisfactory way of managing prominent face veins.

Insurance companies

Face and chest vein treatments are regarded as cosmetic treatments and in general will not be covered by medical insurance.

For further information or assistance please contact:

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Removal of face and chest veins**