

UAB VEIN CLINIC

VEINWAVE™ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW DOES VEINWAVE™ WORK?

The Veinwave™ system uses thermocoagulation (heat) to treat spider veins. The process involves using an ultra-fine insulated needle on the surface of the spider vein to deliver just enough energy to cause the vessel walls to collapse. It is not a laser.

WHAT TYPES OF VEINS ARE BEST TREATED BY VEINWAVE™?

Fine, thread-like spider veins (similar to a strand of hair and too small for sclerotherapy) respond best to Veinwave™ treatment. For larger spider veins, sclerotherapy is the preferred option.

DOES VEINWAVE™ TREATMENT HURT?

Some patients have mild discomfort, similar to the feeling of an ant bite. It is better to avoid any local anesthetics to prevent vasodilation (relaxation) of blood vessels.

HOW DOES THE TREATED VEIN LOOK AFTERWARD?

The treated area may look flushed with minor swelling in the skin for a few hours. Some “micro-scabs” may appear, but they will flake away within a few weeks. Occasionally, the area may appear darker after treatment, with some brownish pigment change.

HOW LONG AFTER THE VEINWAVE™ TREATMENT CAN PATIENTS RESUME NORMAL ACTIVITY?

Normal activities can be resumed immediately after treatment.

ONCE AN AREA IS TREATED, CAN THE SPIDER VEIN RETURN?

Yes.

ARE THERE ANY SITUATIONS WHERE VEINWAVE™ TREATMENT SHOULD BE AVOIDED?

Please notify your provider if any of the following apply to you:

- Serious allergy to nickel or chromium metals
- Pacemaker, automatic defibrillator, or other implantable devices
- Heart condition
- Skin infection
- Diabetes mellitus
- Pregnancy
- A history of seizures
- Tattoos

Prior to treatment, please avoid using any makeup or artificial tanning lotion/spray on the area(s) to be treated for two weeks.

WILL INSURANCE PAY FOR VEINWAVE™?

Veinwave™ is not covered by insurance, and the cost will not be billed to insurance by UAB Medicine. Information on UAB Vein Clinic fees will be provided prior to treatment.

Let the professional staff at the UAB Vein Clinic schedule your comprehensive medical evaluation. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call **205-996-VEIN (8346)** or visit us online at uabmedicine.org/vein.