Often times, the physician will recommend an additional treatment called Sclerotherapy to treat the smaller veins that were damaged around the larger vein treated by vein ligation.

**SCLEROTHERAPY**

Sclerotherapy is a nonsurgical treatment for those suffering from more minor varicose and spider veins. Sclerotherapy may be used to make spider veins and small varicose veins go away or become less visible. This treatment is similar to the other procedures done at the Surgery Center but is done completely without surgical incisions. A chemical is injected through a needle into the diseased vein, causing it to close. These veins no longer receive blood, removing the source of pain for the patient and making the vein less visible through the skin.

It is usually done only for cosmetic reasons because these types of varicose veins rarely cause symptoms or problems. This procedure is often used in conjunction with additional procedures like EVLA to not only remove the problematic veins but also treat additional causes of the symptoms in the legs.

The procedures are very effective and symptoms are relieved almost immediately in most patients. Along with less pain, many patients report that the unsightly bulging and discolored veins also disappear.

The physicians can also discuss additional cosmetic procedures available through the Penn Highlands Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, also available at the Surgery Center.

Please talk to your doctor about having your vein treatments done at Penn Highlands DuBois Surgery Center. Most major insurances are accepted.
VEIN DISEASE TREATMENT

Those suffering from painful and unsightly veins can now get relief locally at the Penn Highlands DuBois Surgery Center. There are several state-of-the-art procedures available in the comfort and convenience of the surgery center and all procedures are performed by board certified physicians.

Nearly half of all adults suffer from some sort of vein disease. Symptoms in the legs include:

- General soreness
- Pain or aching
- Cramping or restlessness
- Burning or itching
- Swelling or tiredness
- Tingling or throbbing

Many patients comment that these symptoms take away from their quality of life and interfere with their normal daily lifestyle. While heredity has a lot to do with vein disease, other life events such as pregnancy, an injury, weight gain or age can worsen these symptoms. Talk to your primary care physician about these symptoms and ask for a referral to a specialist who can discuss the options available at the PH DuBois Surgery Center.

The PH DuBois Surgery Center has both surgical and minimally-invasive procedures available to accommodate all levels of vein disease.

**ENDOVENOUS LASER ABLATION (EVLA)**

Endovenous Laser Ablation or EVLA, is a minimally-invasive laser procedure that is very effective and virtually pain free for patients suffering from such vein problems as varicose veins, superficial vein reflux or saphenous veins.

EVLA is performed under a local anesthesia. During the procedure, the physician uses a small catheter inserted into the diseased vein. Using laser energy, the catheter is heated enough to seal the diseased veins. These veins no longer receive blood, removing the source of pain for the patient.

**ENDOVENOUS RADIOFREQUENCY ABLATION (EVRA)**

Endovenous Radiofrequency Ablation is another minimally-invasive procedure similar to EVLA, but uses radio waves to heat the element at the end of the catheter to shrink and seal the diseased veins.

RF Ablation is performed under a local anesthesia. During the procedure, the physician uses a small catheter inserted into the diseased vein. Using radiofrequency energy, the catheter is heated enough to seal the diseased veins. These veins no longer receive blood, removing the source of pain for the patient.

Both EVLA and RF Ablation are equally successful.

Your physician can discuss the specific details and reasons that one procedure may work better for your specific need.

**PHLEBECTOMIES AND STAB PHLEBOTHROMBECTOMIES**

When the valves that prevent the blood from flowing backwards through the veins stop working properly, varicose veins form in the legs. This issue may cause swelling in the legs and ankles or more severe conditions such as ulcerations or stasis dermatitis. Without treatment, these conditions may become very painful and dramatically impact the patient’s quality of life.

**THE PHLEBECTOMIES AND STAB**

Phlebothrombectomies performed by board certified physicians at the PH DuBois Surgery Center remove the bulging veins that are no longer working properly to reduce the pain. These very similar procedures are often used in conjunction with additional procedures like EVLA to not only remove the problematic veins but also treat additional causes of the symptoms in the legs.

These procedures are done under a local anesthetic and uses only very small incisions that do not even require stitches. Patients walk in and walk out following these procedures.

**VEIN LIGATION**

Vein ligation is a very simple procedure that allows the board certified physician to “tie off” a damaged vein to prevent complications from additional vein damage. The vein is simply tied off and left in place so that additional veins in that area can still circulate blood.

This procedure is done under a local anesthetic and uses only very small incisions that do not even require stitches. Patients walk in and walk out following this procedure.