

Varicose Veins

What are varicose veins?

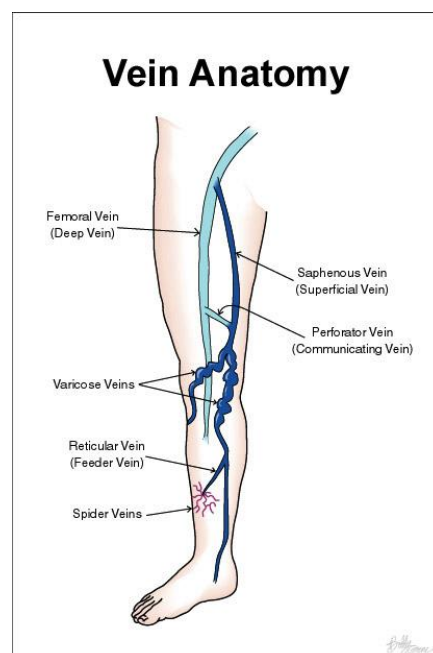
These are abnormal veins in the legs that appear as unsightly or cause other problems.

They develop due to abnormal valve function that allows the blood to travel back in the veins rather than towards the heart. The varicose veins can present in a wide range of appearances like:

- Flares and spider veins
- Lower limb swelling
- Large veins
- Ulcers
- Scarring
- Pigmentation
- Skin thickening
- Eczema

They can also cause a variety of symptoms like

- Aches in the calves and feet
- Bleeding from the veins
- Hard painful lumps called thrombophlebitis



Treatment options:

Following a thorough history and medical examination and duplex ultrasound scan, the plan of management could be

- Support stockings
- Injection sclerotherapy
- LASER or Radiofrequency Ablation
- Clarivein (Mechanical and chemical closure)
- Venaseal closure (Vein glue)
- Open Surgery (Ligation and stripping)