Radiofrequency (RF) Endovenous Ablation (VNUS Closure® Procedure)

The VNUS Closure procedure is a minimally invasive treatment alternative with less pain and less bruising when compared to traditional vein stripping surgery and laser treatment. It uses a patented radiofrequency catheter inserted into the vein, which applies RF energy to heat the vein. This causes the vein to collapse and seal shut. The VNUS Closure procedure has been FDA-approved since 1999 and over 250,000 procedures have been performed worldwide. The VNUS Closure procedure can be performed in an office, ambulatory surgical center or hospital, generally under local anesthesia.

Experience the VNUS Closure® Procedure
Using ultrasound, your physician will position the Closure catheter into the diseased vein through a small opening in the skin, threading the device through the vessel up to the groin area. Local anesthesia is then infiltrated (infused) into the area around the vein. The tiny catheter, powered by radio-frequency (RF) energy, delivers heat to the vein wall. As the thermal energy is delivered, the vein wall shrinks and the vein is sealed closed. Once the diseased vein is closed, blood is re-routed to other healthy veins. Following the procedure, a simple bandage is placed over the insertion site, and additional compression may be provided to aid in healing. Your doctor may encourage you to walk and to refrain from extended standing and strenuous activities for a period of time. Patients who undergo the Closure procedure typically resume normal activities within a day.

Procedural Highlights
VNUS Closure® procedure highlights include:

- Relief of symptoms
- Outpatient or office procedure
- Local anesthesia
- Resume normal activities within 1-2 days
- Good cosmetic outcome with minimal or no scarring, bruising or swelling

Frequently Asked Questions:
Q: Is the Closure procedure painful?
A: Patients report feeling little, if any, pain during and after the procedure.

Q: How quickly can I resume normal activity?
A: Patients are walking immediately following the procedure, and patients typically resume normal activities within one day.
Q: *How soon will my symptoms improve?*
A: Many patients notice an immediate relief of symptoms such as pain, leg heaviness and fatigue. The full benefits of the procedure may take 1-2 weeks.

Q: *Is there any scarring, bruising, or swelling after the procedure?*
A: Patients report minimal to no scarring, bruising, or swelling following the Closure procedure.

Q: *How is the Closure procedure different from vein stripping?*
A: During vein stripping, incisions are made in the groin and calf, and a stripper tool is threaded through the diseased vein, to pull the vein out of the leg. With the Closure procedure, only one small incision is made at the insertion site and the vein is then closed and left in place. This minimally-invasive approach eliminates pain and bruising associated with vein stripping surgery.

Q: *What if I need the vein for bypass surgery in the future?*
A: The Closure procedure treats diseased veins only, which are not appropriate for bypass surgery. Physicians can use other healthy vessels should bypass surgery be necessary.

Q: *Is the Closure procedure covered by insurance?*
A: Most major health insurers cover the Closure procedure. Your physician can discuss your coverage further at the time of the consultation.