Comprehensive follow-up
Three to five days after your treatment, a post-procedure ultrasound will be scheduled at Suburban Imaging. Our nurse will discuss your results and progress with you.

Three months after your procedure, a repeat ultrasound and follow-up consultation with the interventional radiologist will be scheduled.

Other treatments
Sclerotherapy is used primarily for the treatment of cosmetic forms of venous insufficiency or spider veins. Sclerotherapy is typically used on smaller diameter vessels (1-2 mm). A sclerosing solution is injected into the spider vein to close the vein, making it less noticeable. Following the injection, compression stockings are applied and must be worn for 3-6 days to prevent the vein from opening again. This form of therapy typically requires multiple treatments.

As with any vein procedure, medical necessity must be established and documented to obtain proper insurance coverage. Some health plans also require pre-authorization.

Venous ablation is available at our
Coon Rapids office: 763.792.1900
8990 Springbrook Drive, Suite 140 | Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Helpful websites:
www.suburbanimaging.com
www.evlt.com

For detailed directions, visit our website at www.suburbanimaging.com
What are varicose veins?
Veins carry blood to the heart. Normally, valves within the veins open and close to keep blood flowing upward, toward the heart. When the valves don’t function properly, blood pools and flows downward, a condition called reflux or venous insufficiency. Reflux results in enlarged veins that become visible underneath the skin and are called varicose veins. Varicose veins may appear elongated, bulging and rope-like. Venous reflux may also cause swelling, aching, skin changes or venous ulcers of the legs.

Venous ablation
Venous ablation is a minimally-invasive treatment option for varicose veins. Less pain. Short recovery. No scarring.

Venous ablation treats the greater saphenous vein, which runs the length of the thigh. People who have varicose veins do not necessarily have reflux in the greater saphenous vein. To diagnose greater saphenous vein reflux, an ultrasound exam is performed. Ultrasound is a painless outpatient diagnostic exam performed at Suburban Imaging.

Venous ablation is an outpatient office procedure performed at Suburban Imaging by one of our interventional radiologists. More than 90% of patients who have undergone venous ablation report improvement or resolution of their leg pain and visibility of varicose veins.

The Vascular Center of Suburban Imaging
The Vascular Center of Suburban Imaging is staffed by interventional radiologists who provide diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of vascular and arterial diseases. Interventional radiology is a subspecialty of radiology offering minimally-invasive treatment options for patients who may otherwise require surgery. An interventional radiologist is a medical doctor with special training and experience in medical imaging procedures.

Your ultrasound will be reviewed and discussed with you. If greater saphenous vein reflux is identified, venous ablation will often be recommended by the interventional radiologist.

Who is at risk for varicose veins?
More than 25 million men and women in the United States suffer from varicose veins, with more than one million of them seeking care annually.

Conditions contributing to varicose veins include genetics, obesity, pregnancy, hormonal changes at menopause, work or hobbies requiring extended standing and past vein diseases such as thrombophlebitis (i.e. inflammation of a vein as a blood clot forms).

It is estimated that in the United States, 72% of women and 42% of men will experience varicose veins by the time they are in their sixties.

Interventional Radiologists

Kevin Henseler, MD  Adam Jeffers, MD  Anne Reddy, MD  Daniel Thompson, MD

Suburban Imaging
quality medical imaging
experienced subspecialty radiologists
state-of-the-art technology

If you have questions about venous ablation, please call our nurse at 763.792.1980

What you will experience
The procedure is performed by inserting a thin catheter in the saphenous vein under local anesthesia. The catheter delivers laser energy to the vein wall, causing it to heat, collapse and seal shut.

Once the vein is closed, other healthy veins take over and empty blood from your legs. As normal flow is re-established, your symptoms are expected to improve.

After your procedure
You will need someone to drive you home after your procedure; you will be able to drive the next day. A bandage will be placed over the insertion site and a compression stocking will be applied to the leg. The compression stocking must be worn continuously for 3-5 days and for another 1-2 weeks during the day to aid in closure of the saphenous vein.

Frequent walking during the first few days following the procedure is encouraged. Straining, standing in one place for long periods of time and lifting greater than ten pounds should be avoided for 7-10 days following the procedure. Most patients resume normal activity in 1-2 days.

Our interventional radiologists are available to answer any questions after your procedure.