



Veinwave™ – Frequently Asked Questions

- **How long has the Veinwave™ system been available?** Veinwave™ is a revolutionary technique used by vein specialists around the world to eliminate spider veins. Veinwave™ is effective on spider veins of the face. Veinwave™ is a complimentary therapy to topical agents for patients with Rosacea.
- **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 heat to cause the vessel walls to collapse. The insulation prevents extra heat from being transmitted into the skin (similar to sucking the air out of a drinking straw and then gluing the inside walls together). Unlike lasers and other light based therapy which use photocoagulation (“light”) with variable penetration through the skin, Veinwave™ treatment is usually more precise and complete.
- **What types of veins are best treated by Veinwave™?** Fine thread-like spider veins respond best to Veinwave™ treatment. This also includes matts of tiny spider veins incompletely treated with sclerotherapy or other light based therapies. For larger spider veins, sclerotherapy is the preferred option.
- **Does Veinwave™ treatment hurt?** Some patients have mild discomfort, but usually Veinwave™ treatment is very tolerable – especially compared to electrolysis, laser, or intense pulsed light treatments. It is not necessary to use any anesthetic for Veinwave™ procedures. In fact, it is better to avoid any local anesthetics to prevent vasodilation (“relaxation”) of blood vessels. At most, patients would require over-the-counter pain medicine like Tylenol which can be taken 30 minutes prior to procedure. On occasion, the technologist can apply a small amount of a topical anesthetic cream onto the skin to reduce sensitivity. However, anesthetic cream does reduce the effectiveness of the treatment.
- **How does the treated vein look afterwards?** Most vessels will almost completely disappear immediately after treatment. The treated area may feel flushed with some minor swelling in the skin for a few hours. Some “micro-scabs” may appear but will flake away within a few days. Occasionally, the area may appear darker after treatment with some brownish pigment change. Vitamin K oxide, marketed under the brand name Auriderm, can be applied to reduce any associated pigment changes.
- **How long after Veinwave™ treatment can normal activity resume?** Normal activities can be resumed immediately after treatment, including normal sun exposure and light make-up over the treatment area.
- **Once an area is treated, can the spider vein return?** Most spider veins will disappear. Some patients will require multiple treatments.
- **Are there any situations where Veinwave™ treatment should be avoided?**
- Please let us know if you have an allergy to nickel or chromium metals (example: allergic to cheap costume jewelry) so that we can substitute a different needle tip during your treatments.
- We will not treat patients who are pregnant, have a pacemaker or AICD, or have active skin infections.
- Please let us know if you are a diabetic as this will delay healing of treated areas.
- Do not schedule facial or microdermabrasion treatments until treated areas are completely healed.