



Clinical Protocol: Specialty Referral

SUBDEPARTMENT: N/A

POLICY NO.

ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE:  
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TITLE OF POLICY: Varicose Veins

## PROTOCOL OVERVIEW

This Clinical Protocol advises on guidelines, indications, and referral for evaluation of Varicose Veins.

## INDICATIONS

- Hematology referral for evaluation or management of **1 or more** of the following:
  - Pulmonary embolism, and etiology remains unclear
  - Recurrent superficial thrombophlebitis
- Infectious disease referral for evaluation or management of **1 or more** of the following:
  - Rule out infectious condition that may mimic varicose veins or venous insufficiency (eg, cellulitis, dermatophyte infection)
  - Superficial suppurative thrombophlebitis
  - Plastic surgery referral for evaluation or management of nonhealing venous ulcer, and skin graft needed
  - Vascular surgery referral for evaluation or management of **1 or more** of the following:
    - Bleeding from varicosity
    - Conservative therapy needed, including fitting and use of graded compression stockings
    - Interpretation of diagnostic testing needed (eg, duplex ultrasound)
    - Large superficial varices associated with skin ulcer
    - Lower limb skin changes suggesting chronic venous insufficiency (eg, pigmentation, eczema, stasis dermatitis)
    - Persistent or recurrent venous stasis ulcer
    - Rule out other vascular condition that may mimic varicose veins or venous insufficiency (eg, arterial insufficiency, deep venous thrombosis)
    - Saphenous venous insufficiency that has failed medical treatment, as indicated by ALL of the following:
      - Saphenofemoral valve incompetence documented by duplex ultrasound or other imaging test
      - Symptoms causing clinically significant functional impairment, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
        - ✓ Leg edema
        - ✓ Leg fatigue
        - ✓ Leg itching
        - ✓ Leg pain
  - Superficial thrombophlebitis that fails to improve or progresses during treatment

## RECOMMENDED RECORDS

Please submit history and physical or progress notes that show the symptoms, exam findings, and any pertinent diagnostic tests that may have been done. (i.e. venous ultrasound)

## CITATION

MCG Care Guidelines 27th Edition, 2/28/2023 <https://www.mcg.com/client-resources/news-item/mcg27th-edition-care-guidelines>