

All Perspective Surgical and Laser Patients

All of the major health care insurance companies have recently changed their coverage policy regarding any patient, who might require a surgical or laser procedure for varicose veins. Before the insurance companies will give pre-approval for a procedure, they now require proof of conservative treatment. Conservative treatment means the daily use of prescription compression hose 30 to 40 mmHg pressure, elevation of legs and the use of over the counter anti inflammatory medications. The severity of the pain and any vein complications cannot be evaluated for medical necessity by your insurance carrier until after the period of conservative therapy has been completed. Therefore, if you and your doctor determine that surgical or laser treatment is the best course of therapy for you, the following sequence of events will have to take place.

1. You will be measured for support hose. These can be purchased either here at VCFE or at your own pharmacy. You must have proof of purchase of the hose. Note: This does not include over the counter support hose.
2. You will be given a follow up appointment(s) for re-evaluation of symptoms at the recommendation of the insurance company. After the final visit, we will submit proof of conservative treatment and clinical information to your insurance company for approval. (Does not include Medicare.)

BCBS	6 weeks and 4 month appointments
Humana	6 weeks and 3 month appointments
Aetna	6 weeks and 3 month appointments
Medicare	6 weeks and 3 month appointments (Medicare does not accept proof of conservative treatment or clinicals)
Cigna	6 weeks and 6 month appointments
Great-West	6 weeks and 6 month appointments

At this time, all other insurance companies are 6 week appointments, only.

3. After approval your surgery can be scheduled.

We are sorry for the inconvenience that this may cause you. It is inefficient to have to go through this process, specifically in cases that obviously will require a surgical intervention. However, these are the guidelines that have been set by the insurance companies. We have to enforce these guidelines to protect you, as the patient, from being held financially responsible, should the insurance carrier disagree with the medical necessity of your condition. If you have any questions, please call our office at 847.856.2534.