Physician benefits

- Access to top-ranked, board certified, subspecialty interventional radiologists who are experts in the diagnosis and treatment of venous disease
- Highest regional case volume and interventional catheter experience
- Comprehensive pre-treatment patient consultation and ultrasound evaluation to determine vein pathology
- Pre-certification handled by interventional radiology department
- Dedicated nurses facilitate comprehensive patient care
- Patient care returns to referring physician after treatment
- Patients considering surgery may get a second opinion from an interventional radiologist to verify endovenous ablation candidacy

Patient benefits

- Consultative appointments readily available
- Outpatient procedure performed with local anesthesia and optional sedation for the majority of patients
- No scars or sutures and immediate return to normal activity
- More effective treatment, fewer complications, and less pain during recovery compared to traditional surgical ligation or vein stripping
- Reduced chance for development of venous stasis ulcers
- Most treated veins invisible to ultrasound within 12 months; some associated branches may require sclerotherapy
- Endovenous ablation is well-covered by most major insurers for symptomatic patients
- Multiple locations for patient treatment
For patient scheduling or to talk with a nurse coordinator, please call (314) 362-7625

Indications for varicose vein referral and consultation
- Palpable enlarged or bulging vein (may not be visible)
- Aching pain and/or leg cramps
- Ankle and leg swelling
- Venous ulcers
- Superficial phlebitis
- Heaviness, tension or easy leg fatigue
- Itching

Risk Factors for varicose veins
- Family history of varicose veins / heredity
- Increased age (age 50 and older)
- Female gender
- Pregnancy or multiple pregnancies
- Jobs with prolonged sitting or standing
- Obesity

Severity of varicose vein disease
- More than 30 million Americans suffer from venous disease but only 1.9 million seek treatment annually believing it is a cosmetic issue
- Varicose veins affect one out of two people age 50 and older and 15-25% of all adults
- Diagnosing and treating varicose veins can halt the disease progression
- Left untreated, varicose veins can progress to a more serious disease called chronic venous insufficiency
- Chronic venous insufficiency can occur at any age, but increased age is a risk factor

Long-term consequences of non-treatment
- Continued pain, fatigue and swelling of legs and ankles
- Superficial thrombophlebitis, usually due to a blood clot
- Profuse spontaneous bleeding even with minor injury
- Hyperpigmentation or staining near the ankles
- Venous ulceration of the leg and ankles
- Lipodermatosclerosis (thickening/hardening of the skin)

Patient consultation location
**Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology**
510 South Kingshighway Blvd, 6th Floor, St. Louis, MO 63110
Scheduling phone: (314) 362-7625  Fax: (314) 362-2276

Procedure locations
**Center for Advanced Medicine**
4921 Parkview Place, Ste 3F, St. Louis, MO 63110
Interventional Radiology Department Phone: (314) 362-2900

**Barnes-Jewish West County Hospital**
12364 Olive Blvd, Creve Coeur, MO 63141
Admitting: (314) 996-8415