









L11) Venous Diseases

Objectives:

- Discuss the pathophysiology and epidemiology of varicose veins
- Discuss the classification and clinical features of varicose veins
- Discuss the diagnosis and managements of varicose veins
- Discuss the pathophysiology and clinical assessment of chronic venous insufficiency
- Discuss the managements of chronic venous insufficiency
- Discuss the pathophysiology and epidemiology of venous thromboembolism
- Discuss the classification and clinical features of venous thromboembolism
- Discuss the diagnosis and management of venous thromboembolism

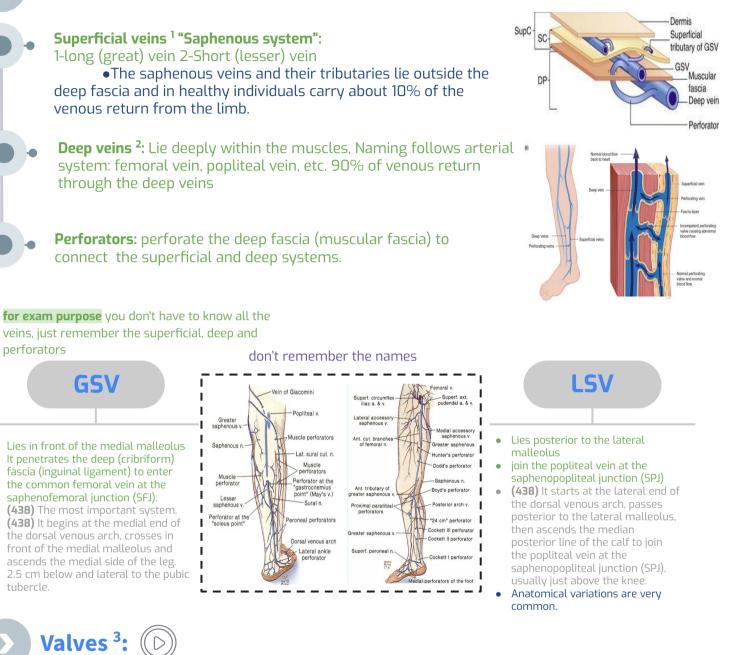
Color index:

Main Text Males slides Females slides 42 Doctor notes Doctor notes Textbook Important Golden notes Extra

Editing file

Anatomy Of Venous System

Anatomy of Venous System:



Proximal to distal big number of valve

- Is a fold within the vein
- As Blood passes they open in a direction and close then in the other direction
- IVC has no valves, the venous valves starts at the external iliac vein, as you go more distally you have more valves
- There are two types of valves:
 - Vertical valves; prevent blood from going down (<u>flow direction</u>: **down to up/distal to proximal**)
 - Perforating veins valve; directing blood from superficial to deep veins (flow direction: out to in)

438 Notes:

- 1- Lie in the fatty layer just beneath the skin.
- 2- It has valves that allow the blood to flow upward towards the heart.
- 3- A valve is not a muscular structure , formed from a single layer of endothelial cells,

-The greatest challenge that veins must overcome is **achieving sufficient venous return** given the force of gravity which tends to pool blood in veins. Venous return in the face of gravity is achieved by an anatomical solution which involves using a **muscle pump** and the existence of **one-way valves** within the veins. These valves allow blood to move in the direction of the heart but prevent backward flow.

Physiology Of Venous System:



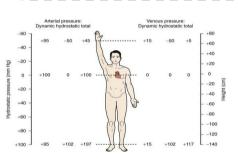
Dynamic

- The pressure generated by cardiac pumping is termed dynamic pressure.
- All the positive active pressures that pushes the fluid into that tube (arteries and veins).
- Under normal conditions in the supine position, blood flow is determined by dynamic pressure gradients, with arterial pressure being higher than venous pressure. The majority of dynamic pressure is dissipated in the arterial system before it reaches the capillary bed. At the venous end of the capillary bed, it ranges from 12 to 18 mm Hg. Atrial pressure averages 4 to 7 mm Hg under normal conditions. Hence, blood flows along this gradient and is returned to the heart.

Is the pressure that results from the weight of the fluid and it's fixed in arteries and veins.

Hydrostatic

- In the upright position, venous flow in the lower extremities is dominated by the effects of hydrostatic pressure.
- When a person is standing absolutely still, the pressure in the veins of the feet is about +90 mmHg simply because of the gravitational weight of the blood in the veins between the heart and the feet.
- You don't have to really dig deep into it.



• Arterial blood pressure at the ankle in a standing position = Hydrostatic + Dynamic \rightarrow 102 + 95 = 197 mmHg (200 mmHg)

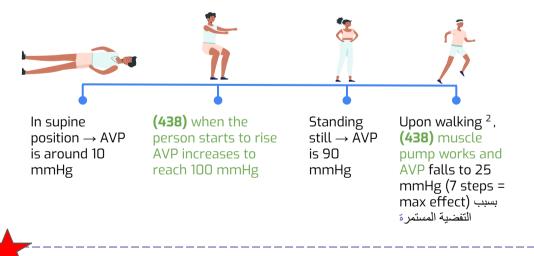
• Venous blood Pressure at the ankle in a standing position = Hydrostatic + dynamic \rightarrow 102 + 15 = 117 mmHg (120 mmHg) (117 mmHg is a high pressure that the physiological mechanisms need to push against.)

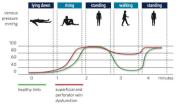
Once those mechanisms fail, we will have very high pressure in the foot. And the consequences of venous insufficiency are as high as a systolic failure in the upper limb (of the arterial system).

The physiological mechanisms are explained in the next slide.

Ambulatory Venous Pressure¹:

• If you understand normal you will be able to advise and guide regarding therapy for the abnormal.





The green graph depicts the normal rise and fall of venous pressure according to body positioning and gravitational effect.

1-There will be some MCQs about it so you have to remember it's around 25 mmHg and when a patient has venous insufficiency it will be higher than 25 mmHg.
2-High walking ambulatory venous pressure will develop chronic venous insufficiency
numbers are not important

Physiology Of Venous System:

How does the blood travel through veins?

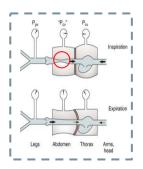
By many simple (e.g the venous plexus in soleus muscle) and complicated physiological mechanisms, which are:

Abdominothoracic (Respiratory) Pump:

Upon inspiration there will be +ve pressure in abdomen, and -ve pressure in thorax (diaphragm will go down, creating a +ve pressure which will lead to closure of veins. That cycle will continue and form a valve like function).

> In expiration diaphragm will go up creating a -ve pressure, which will push the blood upward towards the heart from the legs.

As a result of pregnancy, large tumors, abdominal obesity, ascites,





the legs to the heart. Venomuscular pump (Leg-Calf muscle pump):

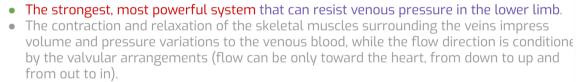
On subsequent muscle relaxation, venous

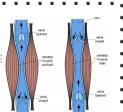
is greater in the deep

veins and less in the

superficial veins.

intra-abdominal pressure can rise to +15 or +30 mmHg (normally +6 mmHg), when it rise, the pressure in the **veins of the legs** must rise above the abdominal pressure before the abdominal veins will open and allow the blood to flow from





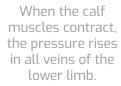
• Weight-bearing compresses the veins in the sole of the foot, which propels blood

into the calf ('foot pump').

Contraction



The vein is **squeezed** to push the blood **upward**. So when we move our legs, it moves up and empties.



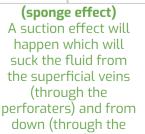


Venous pressure exceeds the intramuscular pressure in calf compartments in most of the step phases, but competent venous valves prevent retrograde flow.



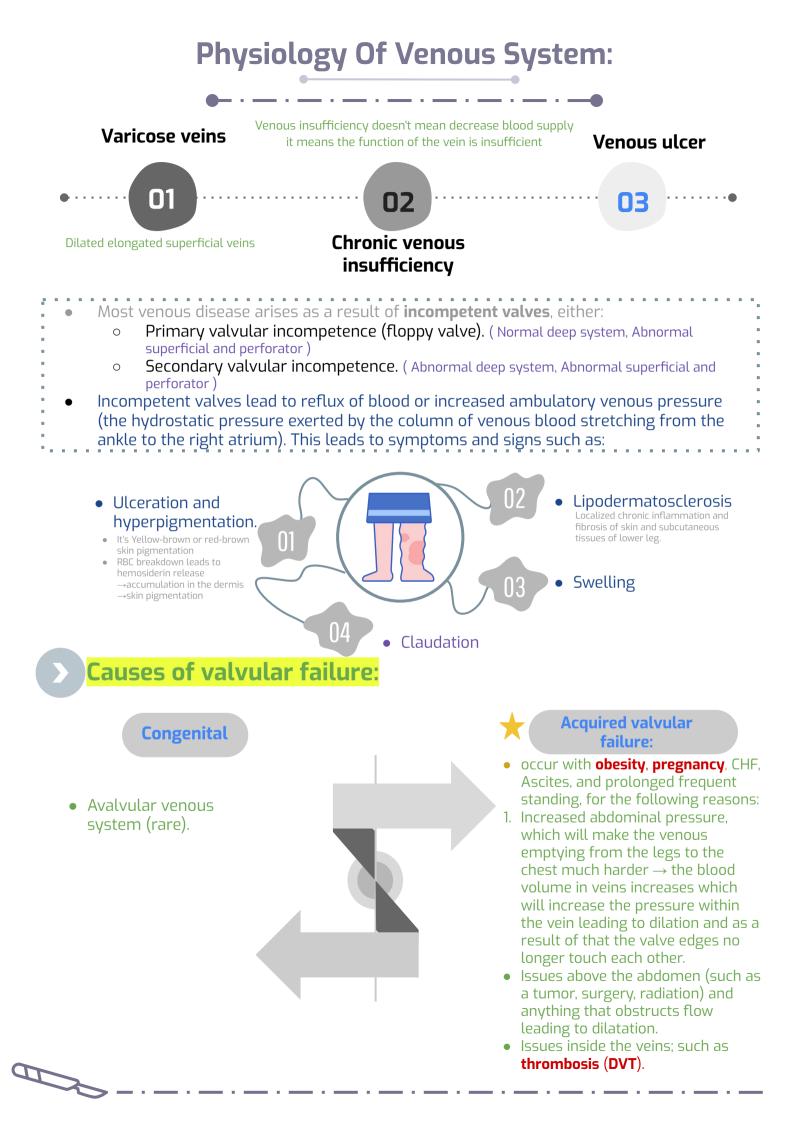




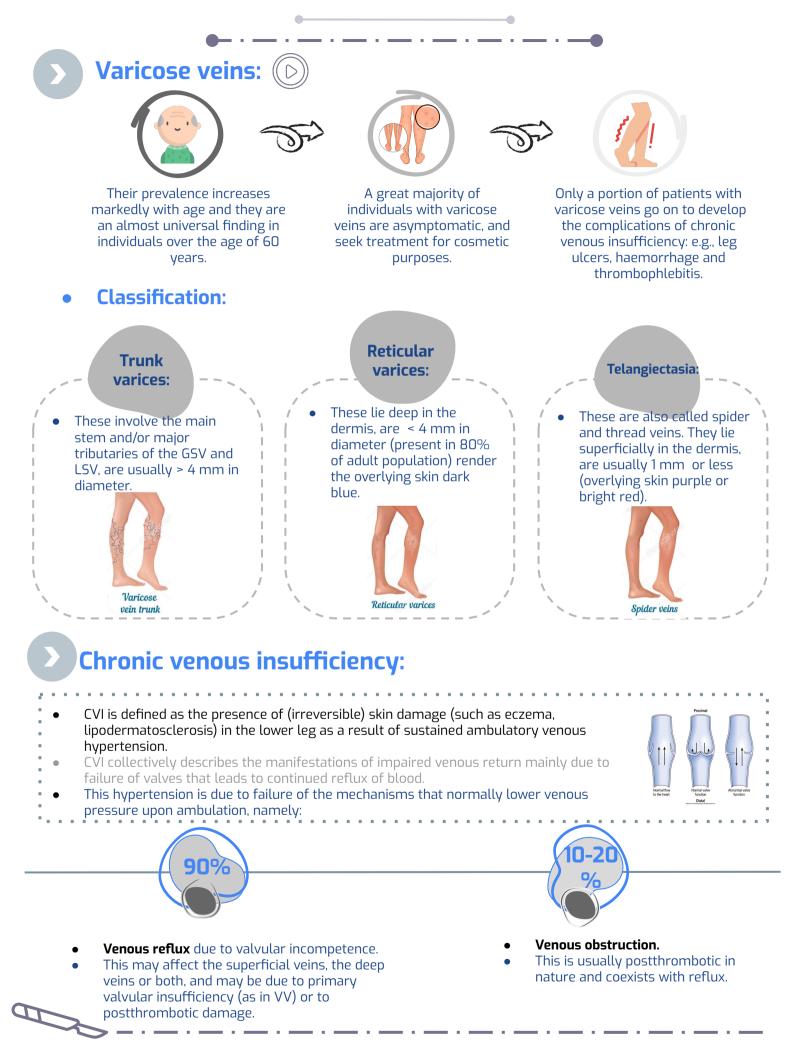


valves)





Venous Diseases



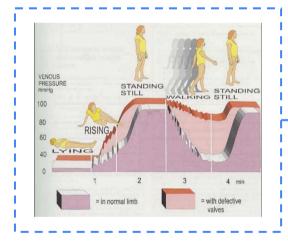
Venous Diseases

• So, What happens to the venous pressure?



With normal functioning valves:

When a person is lying down, the venous pressure of lower limb is distributed to be around 10 mmHg, but when the person starts to rise it increases to reach 100 mmHg, which stays like that if the person is standing still. Upon walking the muscle pump works to reduce the pressure (suction \rightarrow push \rightarrow suction \rightarrow push).





01





In someone with **defective** valves:

When the valves fail, the venomusclar pump and the respiratory pump function becomes harmful.

Venomusclar: When the muscle contracts, the blood is pushed below. And during the relaxation, blood is pulled from above due to the suction force.

Respiratory pump: During exhalation, the venous blood will be pushed below.

The rising phase is faster because the vein fills from up (backflow) and gravity. And walking won't reduce the venous pressure.

This graph depicts the pressures in a healthy limb, in mauve, while lying, rising, standing still and walking compared with the pressures present in a limb with defective valves.

The mauve depicts the normal rise and fall of venous pressure according to body positioning and gravitational effect.

Purple: The pressure is building gradually because blood won't fall from superior parts.

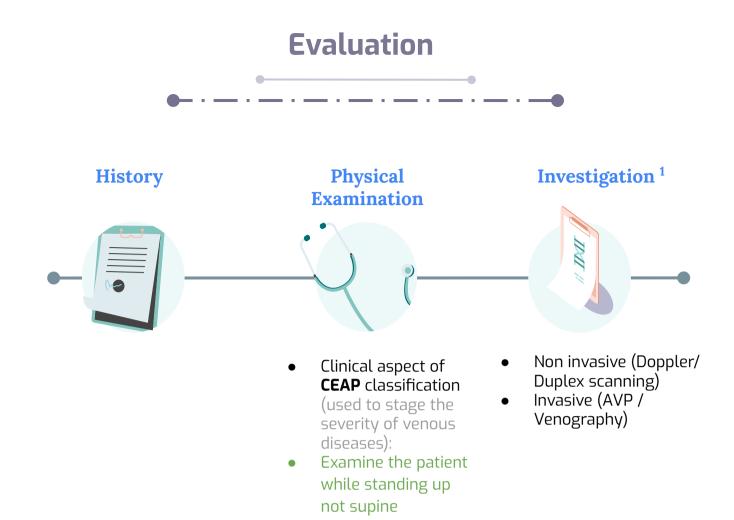
Red: lying is the same, when they stand the blood drops from above which increases pressure rapidly. When they walk the blood keeps coming to the lower limb due to the harmful mechanism discussed above

Why? Because the longest vein in the superficial venous system (GSV) starts at the medial malleolus. Once venous system failure occur, it will be the highest point of pressure in the venous system. **Which will lead to** pain ² and increased: edema, protein rich fluid, lipodermatosclerosis and skin pigmentation and finally ulcers.

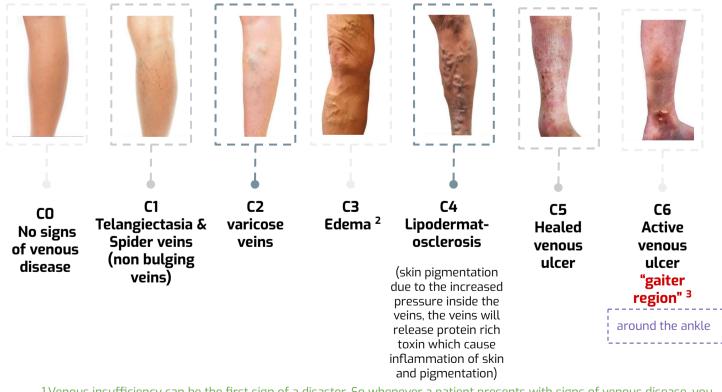
02

1. Varicose veins \rightarrow extravasation of protein and leukocytes \rightarrow release of free radicals \rightarrow damage to capillary basement membrane \rightarrow leakage of plasma proteins \rightarrow edema formation \rightarrow oxygen supply \rightarrow tissue hypoperfusion and hypoxia \rightarrow inflammation and atrophy \rightarrow possibly ulcer formation.

Pain while standing relieved by walking is quite opposite to arterial diseases.



Clinical-Etiology-Anatomy-Pathophysiology (CEAP):



1.Venous insufficiency can be the first sign of a disaster. So whenever a patient presents with signs of venous disease, you should always look for the cause.

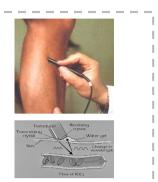
When it exceeds just being a vascular problem it will affect the tissues around the vein in the form of fluid leak
 Ulcers and Lipodermatosclerosis happen above the malleus (gaiter area) only. Because it is the highest pressure point in the venous system, and in this place there are bone and skin only there is no fat.

Evaluation

Non-Invasive:

Doppler

- Tells us that there is fluid & it's moving. You can also asses valve closure.
- Normal venous blood flow is spontaneous and phasic during respiration, vielding a **wind-like audible Doppler signal**. Manual compression of the limb below the probe should augment forward flow, with resultant increased amplitude of the audible Doppler signal. When the limb is compressed above the probe, the Doppler signal will normally cease, because competent valves restrict retrograde venous flow. When compression above the probe is released, an augmented, forward flow signal should be noted.



Duplex scanning

MCO: Patient came with limp swelling what is the first thing you do?

- The best non-invasive diagnostic method for either venous or arterial diseases
- Duplex ultrasound involves using high frequency sound waves to look at the speed of blood flow, and structure of the leg veins.
- The term "duplex" refers to the fact that two modes of ultrasound are used, Doppler and B-mode:
 - The B-mode transducer (like a microphone) obtains an image of the vessel being studied.
 - The Doppler probe within the transducer evaluates the velocity and direction of blood flow in the vessel.
- The probe also has a receiver to receive the sound waves back and analyze it. Sound waves passing through fluid rapidly and easily will make the fluid appear black. While those passing through thick tissue will reflect the sound waves back. The receiver on the probe can also inform us if the sound waves are increasing (which indicates movement of fluid. This movement is either away from the probe or towards it)

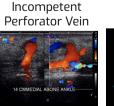
Duplex scanning is the most commonly used investigation tool.

• All patients must undergo duplex ultrasound to define the nature and distribution of superficial and deep venous disease, as this has an important bearing on both treatment and prognosis.

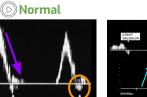
Incompetent Valves



Reversed flow



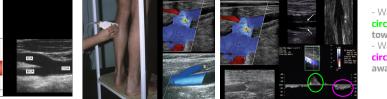




flow stopped = valve is working (orange circle).

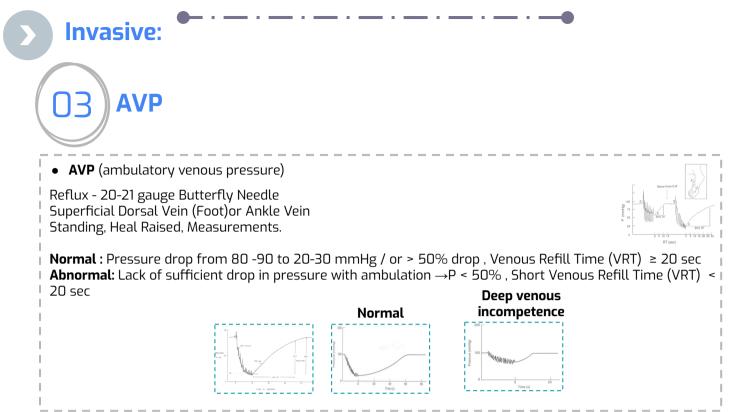
- The **arrows** in this picture indicate **speed** and not direction! (in this picture the wave is up which means that the direction of the flow is towards the probe). The **blue arrow** speed is **fast**

The **purple arrow**: speed is **low** AND BOTH ARE GOING IN THE SAME DIRECTION BECAUSE THE VALVE IS FUNCTIONING WELL. How do we know that the valve is functioning normally? Because when the direction of the flow (the wave) was about to get reversed, the



- Wave is **up (green** circle): blood is moving towards the probe. - Wave is down (pink circle): blood is moving away from the probe.

Evaluation



Phlebography (Venography)

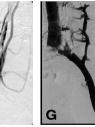
NOT DONE THESE DAYS

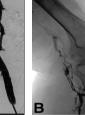
- Injecting dye + x-ray to see inside the veins.
- It has many complications due to the contrast and the procedure itself
- Don't use it for diagnosing only for treatment because it's invasive
 - The vein in the picture is the popliteal and it's blocked in the picture 'B'.



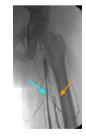


popliteal vein. Green circle: valve.





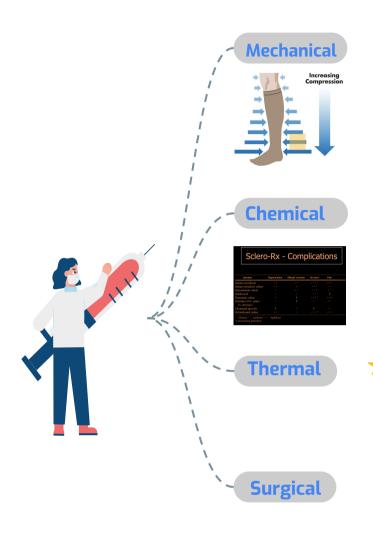
popliteal vein with filling defect (blocked vein).



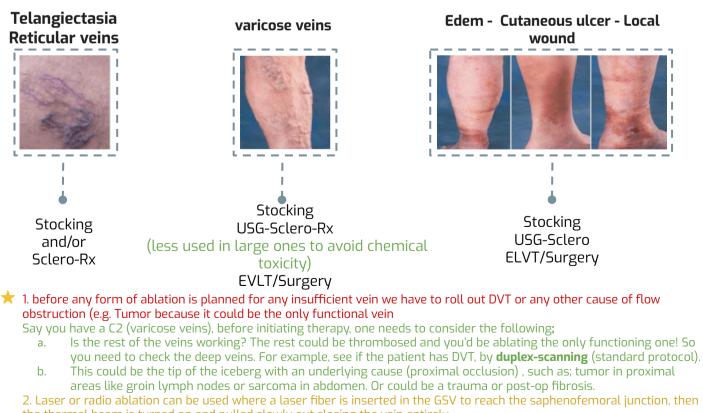
Blue arrow: Saphenous vein

Orange arrow: Femoral vein with filling defect due to

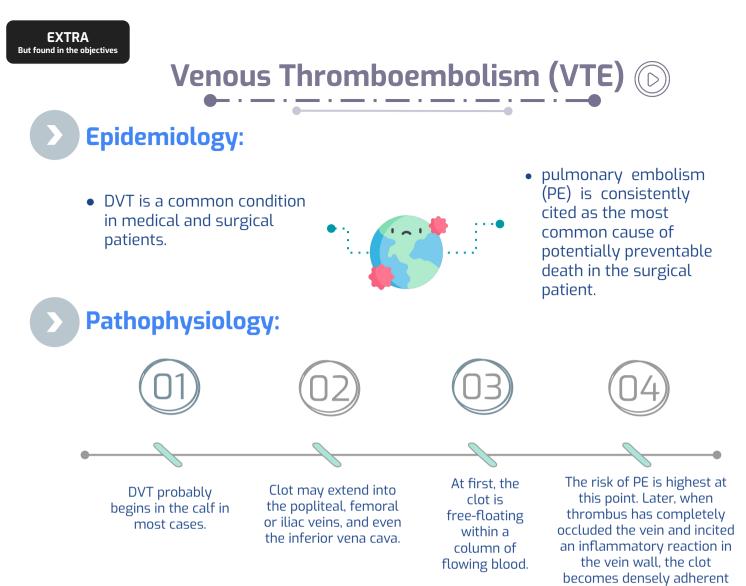
Treatment (Types Of Ablation)¹:



- **Compression stocking:** a **temporary** solution that provides high compression below and low compression up for 2 reasons:
 - To close veins that aren't working properly which will shift blood to deep veins
 - Make valve leaflets close to each other
- Disadvantage patients usually have compliance issues with it especially elderly patients because it's hard to put on (high pressure) & may reduce arterial perfusion (contraindicated in arterial insufficiency; leads to ischemia)
- Sclerotherapy: Sclerotherapy is the injection of a sclerosing agent into a vein (small veins only!), causing an inflammatory reaction in the endothelium of the vein wall. The vein walls adhere together under compression and form a scar (fibrotic tissue) that is absorbed by the body. And the blood will be shifted to other working veins. Usually it is a cosmetic procedure.
- Contraindicated with large veins.
- Complications : pigmentation, allergic reaction, necrosis, pain.
- **EndoVenous Ablation Techniques ²:** Denaturation of vein wall collagen \rightarrow contraction \rightarrow fibrous obliteration
- EndoVenous Laser Therapy (EVLT)
- Surgery (stripping the saphenous vein)
- We don't do it anymore, big wound, very painful, very challenging to the patient.
- **An absolute contraindication** is if the rest of the veins are diseased (e.g. DVT)



the thermal beam is turned on and pulled slowly out closing the vein entirely.



Aetiology and Clinical Features:

- Virchow's triad: namely, venous Stasis, intimal Endothelial damage and Hypercoagulability of the blood (These include antithrombin, protein C and protein S deficiency, as well as factor V Leiden.) mnemonic: HE'S Virchow
- Clinical risk factors for DVT are related to venous stasis: for example, immobility, obesity, pregnancy, paralysis, operation and trauma.

and is unlikely to embolize.

• Clinical features:



Venous Thromboembolism (VTE)

Diagnosis and Management:



Diagnosis:

- Colour duplex ultrasound imaging has largely replaced conventional venography in the diagnosis of DVT.
- At times of doubt, MR or CT venography may be useful.

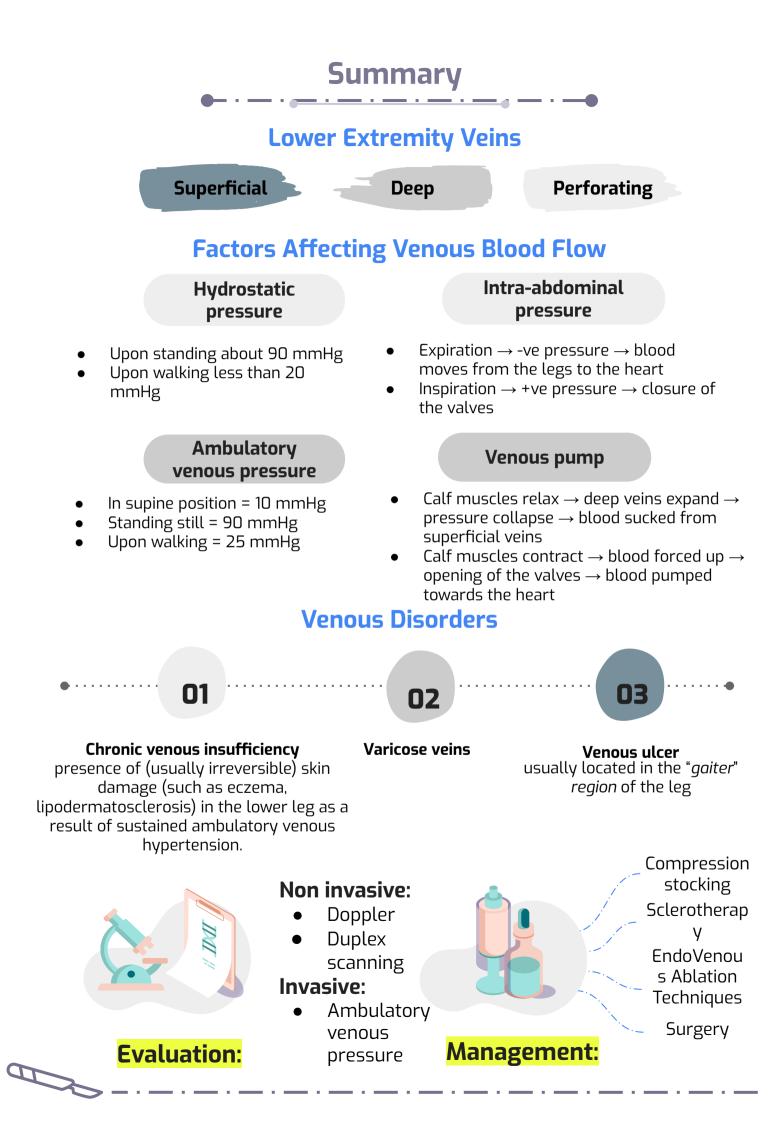


Management:

- Before treatment is instituted, the diagnosis of DVT should normally have been established by means of ultrasound or MR (CT) venography.
- However, where the clinical suspicion of DVT and/or PE is high and there is no contraindication to heparin, the potential benefits of 'blind' treatment until the diagnosis is confirmed often outweigh the risks of withholding anticoagulation.

Uncomplicated DVT vs. Complicated DVT:

Uncomplicated DVT	Complicated DVT
 If thrombus is confined to the calf, the patient is fully mobile and other risk factors are reversible, then an elastic stocking and physical exercise may be all that is required. For most uncomplicated DVT, it is now clear that: Bed rest is unnecessary and the patient can be mobilized immediately, wearing an appropriately fitted compression stocking. LMWH given by intermittent subcutaneous injection is more effective than unfractionated heparin given by infusion. 	 The DVT is more extensive (iliofemoral, vena cava, phlegmasia). The DVT is recurrent. The patient has had a PE. The patient has one or more major irreversible congenital and/or acquired thrombophilia. Heparinization is contraindicated (heparin-induced thrombocytopenia, trauma – especially intracranial, recent haemorrhage).



Quiz!

Q1: A question the Dr. mentioned: TRUE or FALSE, varicose veins treatment is sclerotherapy (chemical ablation) ?

- A) True
- B) False
- C) IDK :)

Q2: A 53 year old gentlemen who works as a security guard, came to your clinic complaining of leg pain, you examined the leg and found edema (C3), what's your next step?

- A) Send him home until he notices skin changes
- B) Confirm diagnosis by Duplex scanning
- C) Treat him by thermal ablation

Q3: Which of the following areas is venous ulcers seen the most?

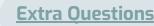
- A) Medial malleolus
- B) Lateral malleolus
- C) The heel of the foot

Q4: What is the most commonly used investigation modality for venous diseases?

- A) Doppler
- B) Ultrasound
- C) Duplex

Ancwore	
<u>Allsweis</u>	

Q1	
Q2	
Q3	А
Q4	



Quiz!

Q1: A 41-year-old woman, diagnosed with varicose veins in the left leg, presents to your clinic with a 2-month history of severe pain in the left leg on prolonged standing. The patient is obese and the pain has affected her working and social lifestyle and she asks you about the most effective treatment option. From the list below, choose the most effective treatment option that you would discuss with this patient.

- A) Use of compression stockings
- B) Injection sclerotherapy
- C) Surgery

Q2: Lipodermatosclerosis is commonly associated with which one of the following conditions?

- A) Deep vein thrombosis
- B) Varicose veins
- C) Intermittent claudication

Q3: A 65-year-old man presents for the first time to your clinic with a painless wound in his right leg, which has been present for over 2 months. On examination you notice a 3 cm × 4 cm leg ulcer in the gaiter area of the right leg, covering the medial malleolus. The shallow bed of the ulcer is covered with granulation tissue, which is surrounded by sloping edges. There is no history of trauma. From the list below, choose the most likely diagnosis.

- A) Arterial leg ulcer
- B) Neuropathic ulcer
- C) Venous ulcer

Q4: Which of the following statements regarding venous leg ulcers are true?

- A) Less than 10 percent of patients will get a recurrence within 5 years after healing.
- B) Venous ulcers are best managed by 'two layer' bandaging.
- C) Greater than 60 percent of all leg ulcers are venous in origin.

Q5: A 48-year-old man has a body mass index (BMI) of 37 and is a heavy smoker. He has primary symptomatic varicose veins with skin changes and duplex scan demonstrates an isolated saphenopopliteal junction incompetence and short saphenous reflux.

- A) Endovascular laser treatment (EVLT)
- B) Foam sclerotherapy
- C) Valve surgery

<u>Answers</u>

Q1	Q4	
Q2	Q5	А
Q3	Q6	



محمد الغامدي

في الدوسري

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نوف الضلعان

الأعضاء

عبدالعزيز القحطاني رائد الماضي

حسبي الله لا إله إلا هو عليه توكلت وهو رب العرش العظيم. اللهم إني أستودعك ما قرأت وما حفظت وما تعلمت فرده لي عند حاجتي إليه إنك على كل شيء قدير.



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