



MEDICAL POLICY STATEMENT Marketplace	
Policy Name & Number	Date Effective
Saphenous Vein Ablation, Adhesive Injection-MP-MM-1395	05/01/2024
Policy Type	
MEDICAL	

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Georgia	Indiana	Kentucky	Ohio	West Virginia

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A. Subject

Saphenous Vein Ablation, Adhesive Injection

B. Background

Varicose veins (varicosities) are dilated, thickened, elongated, and twisted blood vessels that may appear threadlike or as large grape-like clusters under the skin, most often on the legs. Varicose veins are considered a sign of chronic venous insufficiency, a condition characterized by dysfunction of the valves in veins leading to increased blood pressure, blood pooling, and venous reflux in affected areas. Varicose veins may be asymptomatic, or the associated venous insufficiency may cause symptoms such as heaviness, aching, numbness, swelling, and ulceration of the affected limb. In addition, risk is increased for thrombophlebitis, deep vein thrombosis (DVT), and pulmonary embolism.

Approximately 25 million adults in the United States are affected by varicose veins. This condition can have a significant impact on patients' quality of life (QoL) and increase the health care burden, with an estimated \$1 billion incurred annually for treatment in the United States. Conservative therapy includes weight reduction, exercise and prescribed physical activity (walking, treadmill, cycling), periodic leg elevation and compressive therapy with use of surgical grade compression stockings. Non-surgical treatment for this condition includes radiofrequency ablation (RFA) and endovenous laser ablation (EVLA).

A third, more recent treatment method is Cyanoacrylate adhesive closure (CAC), a catheter-directed procedure that seals the saphenous vein without the use of tumescent anesthesia. It involves the endovenous delivery of cyanoacrylate adhesive to the saphenous vein.

- Cyanoacrylate adhesive closure (CAC) – A nonthermal ablation technique uses a glue delivered into the saphenous vein using a catheter for access that induces a foreign body reaction leading to inflammation and fibrotic occlusion of the vessel.
- Saphenous veins – Either of two main superficial veins of the leg, one larger than the other. These are:
  - Great saphenous vein (GSV) – originating in the foot and passing up the medial side of the leg and through the saphenous opening to join the femoral vein, and the
  - Small saphenous vein (SSV) – originating similarly and passing up the back of the leg to join the popliteal vein at the knee.

#### D. Policy

I. CareSource considers Saphenous Vein Ablation with cyanoacrylate adhesive medically necessary when ALL of the following are met:

- A. Failure of 3 months of conservative treatment, which may include-

