



January 1, 2011

Re: Insurance Billing for Varicose Vein Services

To Our Valued Varicose Vein Patients:

Varicose Vein treatments usually take several months to complete. The number of visits you will have depends on the treatment plan Dr. Schlotter has recommended for you (anywhere from 2 visits – 12 visits). Our office bills your charges to the insurance company for each date of service. Some surgeries have a “global period” and others do not. When another surgery is done during this “global period” we are required to use a modifier (58) on your insurance claim to inform your carrier that the procedure was a “staged procedure” or “planned procedure” so that it will be paid.

During your post operative follow-up appointments the doctor may require several ultrasound exams. These are used to follow your progress and to possibly alter your treatment plan. It is necessary to do these ultrasounds to provide good medical care to our patients. These ultrasound and visits (if done) will be charged separately to your insurance company. Depending on **your insurance benefits** a coinsurance or copay may be due from you for these services.

Each insurance company is different. We try to stay informed with most carriers but it is impossible to keep up with all of them. We strive to assist our patients by **estimating** their cost upfront. We require full payment of the patient’s **estimated share** of the surgery on the date of service. Since a patient’s treatment plan may change the cost will also change. If you have a credit from one surgery it will be carried over to the next procedure charge. Once your treatment is completed and you have a credit on your account we will send you a refund. Once the insurance has paid their share and a balance remains on your account a bill will be forwarded to you for payment.

We hope this information answers most of your questions. If you have any other questions please contact me anytime and I will be glad to assist you.

Thank you,

*Michelle Schlotter*  
Office Manager