Chronic venous disorders

Eric Mowatt-Larssen, MD, FACPh, RPhS Monterey, California Phlebology Review, March 2014

Agenda

- Classification CEAP
- CVD vs. CVI
- Epidemiology prevalence, risk factors
- Natural history
- CEAP class C1-C2 signs & symptoms & management
- Non-saphenous reflux
- Venous malformations
- Recurrent varicose veins

CEAP classification scheme

- CVD classification scheme
- "Lack of precision" in CVD diagnosis (1993)
- C = clinical manifestions (signs)
- E = etiology
- ▶ A = anatomy
- P = pathophysiology

CEAP class

- C_0 No visible or palpable signs of venous disease.
- C₁ Telangiectasies or reticular veins.
- C₂ Varicose veins; distinguished from reticular veins by a diameter of 3 mm or more.
- C₃ Edema.
- C₄ Changes in skin and subcutaneous tissue secondary to CVD, now divided into 2 subclasses to better define the differing severity of venous disease:

C4a Pigmentation or eczema.

C_{4b} Lipodermatosclerosis or atrophie blanche.

C₅ Healed venous ulcer.

C₆ Active venous ulcer.

Eklof, CEAP score, JVS 2004

Definitions

- Chronic venous disorders all CEAP classes
- Chronic venous insufficiency CEAP classes C3–C6
- ▶ This lecture focus on CEAP C1–C2
- CVI lecture CEAP C4-C6
- Lymphedema lecture CEAP C3

CEAP classification scheme

Etiologic classification

Ec: congenital

Ep: primary

Es: secondary (postthrombotic)

En: no venous cause identified

Anatomic classification

As: superficial veins

Ap: perforator veins

Ad: deep veins

An: no venous location identified

Pathophysiologic classification

Basic CEAP

Pr: reflux

Po: obstruction

Pr,o: reflux and obstruction

Pn: no venous pathophysiology identifiable

Venous etiology

- Degenerative
- Reflux only
- Intima retained
- Valves stretched & atrophied
- Slow progression
- Primarily superficial veins

- Inflammatory (acquired)
- Obstruction & reflux
- Intima destroyed
- Valves scarred & destroyed
- Faster progression
- Primarily deep veins

Adapted from Kistner & Eklof, Classification etiology CVD, in Gloviczki (ed), Handbook of Venous Disorders, 2009

Primary

Secondary

Advanced CEAP:

Same as Basic with the addition that any of 18 named venous segments can be utilized as locators for venous pathology:

Superficial veins:

- telangiectasies/reticular veins.
- GSV above knee.
- GSV below knee.
- LSV.
- Nonsaphenous veins.

Deep veins:

- IVC.
- Common iliac vein.
- Internal iliac vein.
- External iliac vein.
- Pelvic: gonadal, broad ligament veins, other.
- Common femoral vein.
- Deep femoral vein.
- Femoral vein.
- Popliteal vein.
- Crural: anterior tibial, posterior tibial, peroneal veins (all paired).
- Muscular: gastrocnemial, soleal veins, other.

Perforating veins:

- 17. Thigh
- Calf.

Prevalence

- Varicose veins = 25%
- \rightarrow CEAP C4-C6 = 5%
- ▶ Healed ulcers = 1%
- Active ulcers = 0.5%

Risk factors

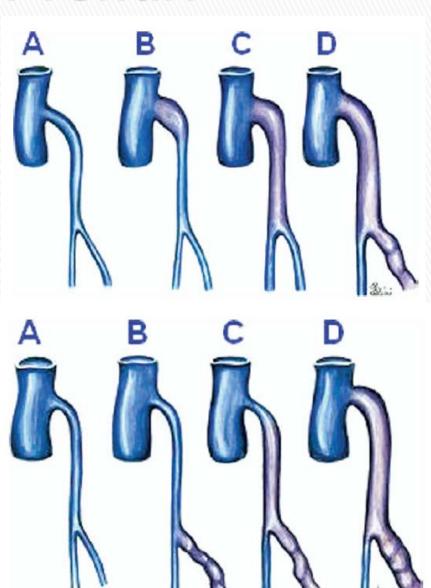
- Advanced age
- Family history
- Female gender
- Multiparity

- Advanced age
- Family history
- Obesity

Natural history of reflux

- Symptoms worsen slowly
- 25% show increased reflux extent at 6 months
- Progression up or down saphenous vein

Caggiati, JVS 2006



Symptoms

- Pain and discomfort tingling, aching, burning, pain, muscle cramps, swelling, throbbing, heaviness, itching, restless legs, tired legs, leg fatigue
- CVI symptoms ankle > calf swelling, skin changes, ulcers
- Worse with dependency and heat
- Improved with leg elevation and compression

Differential diagnosis

Table 4.2 Differential diagnosis of lower extremity pain and discomfort

Deep or superficial venous thrombosis

Peripheral arterial disease

Iliocaval obstruction

Pelvic congestion syndrome

Proximal venous reflux (i.e., branches of the internal iliac vein)

Vascular malformation

Nutcracker syndrome

Chronic compartment syndrome

Neuralgia (i.e., sciatica)

Complex regional pain syndrome

Restless legs syndrome

Musculoskeletal (i.e., muscle/tendon/ligament sprain, muscle pain, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis)

Cellulitis

Geersen & EML, Reflux Management, in EML et al. (eds), Phlebology, Vein Surgery & Ultrasonography, 2014

Spider and reticular veins

- Dilated intradermal venules
- Diameter < 1 mm diameter
- Red, purple
- Telangiectasias

- Dilated, bluish, subdermal, tortuous
- ▶ 1-3 mm diameter



Spider

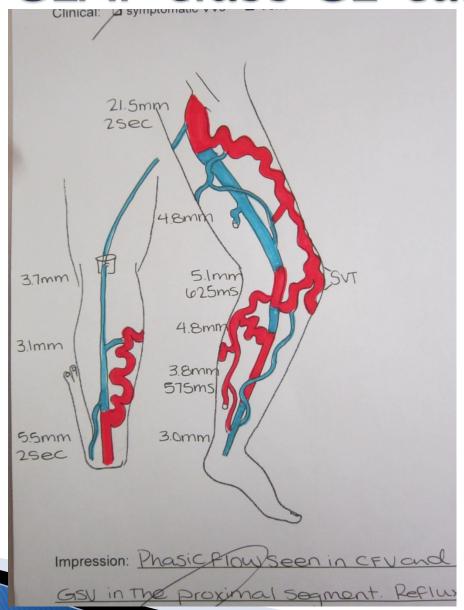
Reticular

Varicose veins

- Dilated subdermal vein
- > 3 mm diameter in upright position
- Refluxing saphenous veins can also be called "varicose"



Classic CEAP class C2 case

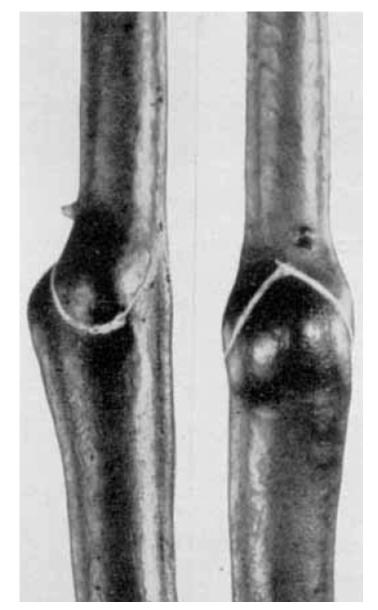


Pathophysiology



Pascarella, Sem Vasc Surg, 2005





Cotton, Br J Surg 1961

Management goals - C1-C2

- Decrease symptoms of pain & discomfort
- Improve cosmesis by elimination of unwanted veins

Conservative measures

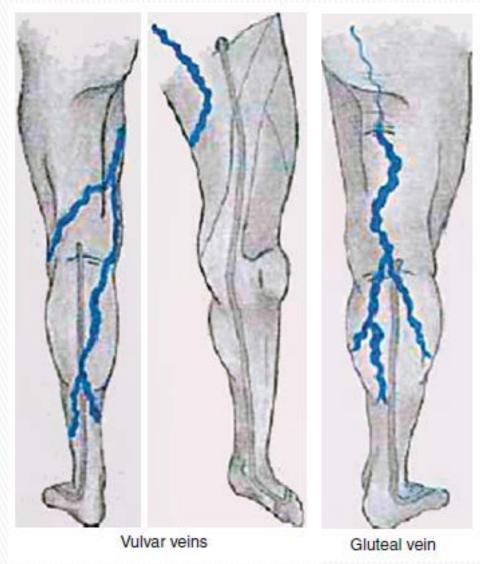
- Compression
- Elevation
- Exercise walk
- Analgesia
- Weight loss



Classic treatment strategy

- Eliminate saphenous if proximal saphenous reflux
- Eliminate saphenous tributary and varicose vein reflux

Consider suprainguinal reflux

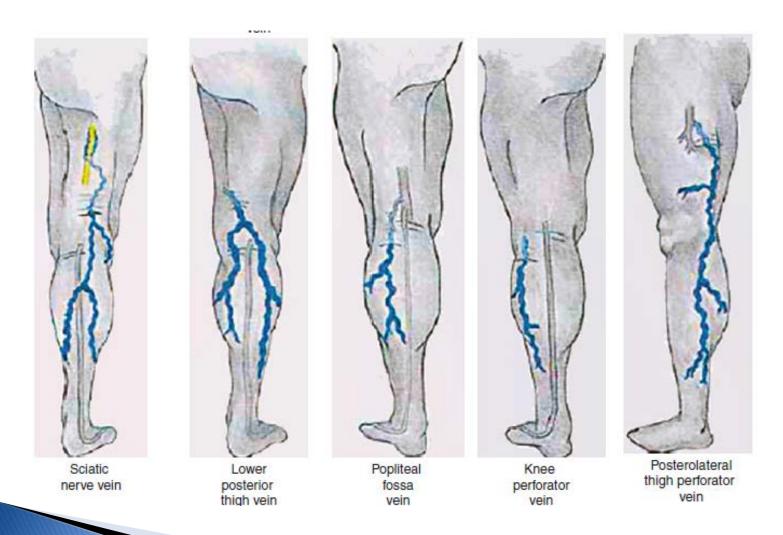




Labropoulos, JVS 2001

Courtesy C Kim

Consider non-saphenous reflux



Labropoulos, JVS 2001

Venous malformations

- Varicose veins present at birth or puberty
- Associated port wine stain, lymphatic malformation
- Unusual anatomy lateral saphenous vein, absent deep vein portions, refluxing tributaries into muscles
- Consider MRA to determine extent and determine low vs. high flow
- Consider Vascular Malformation Team



Courtesy C Shortell

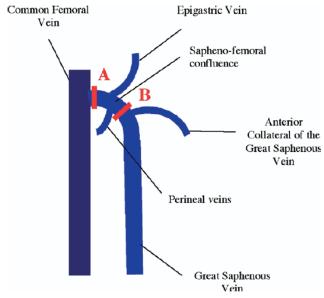


Markovic & Shortell, Low Flow Vascular Malformations, in EML et al. (eds), Phlebology, Vein Surgery & Ultrasonography, 2014

Recurrent varicose veins after surgery

- N = 199 limbs
- ▶ 14 institutions, 8 countries
- ▶ SFJ, 47%
- ▶ SPJ, 25%
- Pelvic or abdominal, 17%
- ▶ IPV, 55%
- Deep veins, 27%

Perrin, JVS 2006



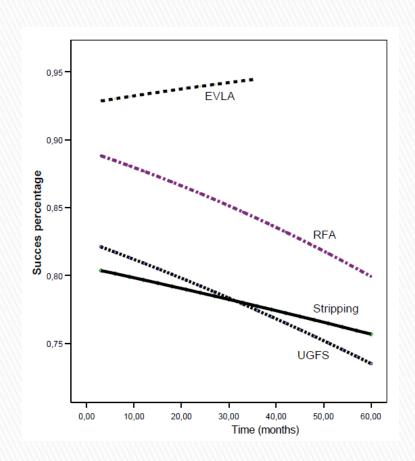
Pittaluga ,JVS 2008



Neovascularization, van Rij, JVS 2004

Recurrent varicose veins

- Recanalization of treated veins
- Abdominopelvic reflux
- Incompetent perforator veins
- Varicose veins without escape point



Van den Bos, meta-analysis, JVS 2009

Conclusions

- Know CEAP
- Know definitions of key vein signs
- Non-saphenous vein reflux
- Venous malformations
- Recurrent varicose veins

