

JF PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CHECKLIST – VEIN ABLATION

This checklist is intended to provide healthcare providers with a reference for use when responding to documentation requests for this service. It is not intended to replace the published guidelines or policy.

Policy Reference

- [LCD Policy \(L34209\) - Treatment of Varicose Veins of the Lower Extremities](#)
- [Billing and Coding Article \(A53084\) - Sclerosing of Varicose Veins](#)

Documentation Reference

- [Part B Vein Ablation Documentation Requirements](#)
- [Part A Prior Authorization for Vein Ablation](#)
- [Part A Prior Authorization Request Coversheet](#)

Medical Documentation

Indication for All Vein Ablation Procedures

- Documentation of intent to perform procedure or qualified provider's order for procedure
- Documented incompetence of the venous vessels consistent with the patient's symptoms and findings
- History and physical examination supporting diagnosis of symptomatic varicose veins; not covered for spider veins or any other cosmetic procedure
- Documented failure of three months conservative methods; **AND**
- Patient is symptomatic and has one or more of the following:
 - Pain or burning severe enough to limit mobility
 - Recurrent episodes of superficial phlebitis
 - Non-healing skin ulceration
 - Bleeding from a varicosity
 - Stasis dermatitis
 - Refractory dependent edema

Indication for Endoluminal Radiofrequency Ablation (ERFA) or Laser Ablation

- Maximum vein diameter of 12mm for ERFA and 20mm for laser ablation
- Absence of significant peripheral arterial diseases
- Documentation stating the presence or absence of DVT, aneurysm and/or Tortuosity
- Supporting photographs, if applicable
- Doppler Ultrasound - Medicare will cover one ultrasound or duplex scan prior to the procedure to determine extent/configuration of varicosities