



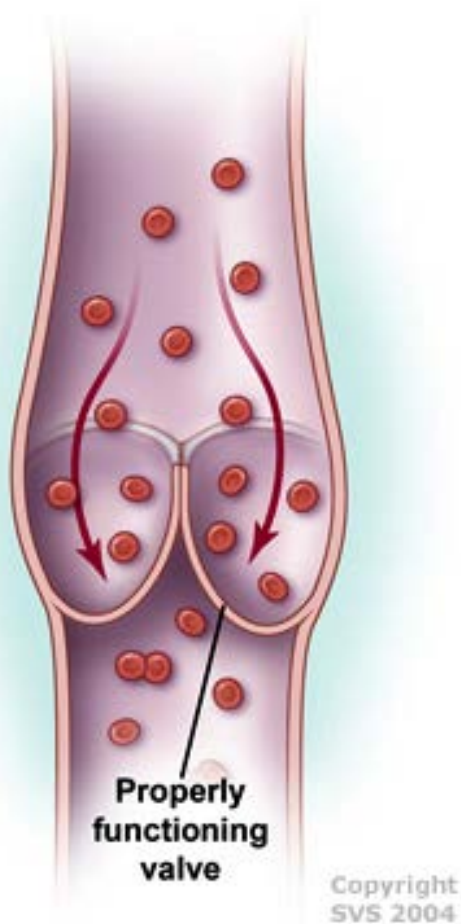
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# Chronic Venous Insufficiency

ALSO CALLED Phlebitis, Post-Thrombotic Syndrome, Venous Insufficiency, Venous Leg Ulcer

BY DR. PETER K. HENKE



If you have CVI, valves in your veins (usually in the leg or sometimes the arms) don't work, causing blood to pool in your legs and putting increased pressure on the walls of the veins. May be due to valve dysfunction (usually hereditary) or due to valve destruction after a **deep vein thrombosis (DVT)** or blood clot.

#### FAIRLY COMMON, USUALLY CHRONIC

May affect up to 40% of the U.S population. More common in women (especially after multiple pregnancies) and in people who are middle-aged or older.

#### TREATABLE - PREVENTING COMPLICATIONS IS IMPORTANT

- Usually treated with exercise, compression stockings and weight loss if applicable.
- In some cases, may require vein ablation or vein stripping.
- Occasionally treated with angioplasty and stents.
- Preventing severe complications such as venous leg ulcers is key.



**OFTEN RECURS**

Even with very successful treatment, recurrence is common and you may need further care.

**FIND A VASCULAR SPECIALIST  
NEAR YOU**

The information contained on Vascular.org is not intended, and should not be relied upon, as a substitute for medical advice or treatment. It is very important that individuals with specific medical problems or questions consult with their doctor or other health care professional.

**Symptoms**



**Causes**



**Diagnosis**



**Treatments**



**Staying Healthy**



**Resources**



**What is a Vascular Surgeon?**

**Your Vascular System**

Vascular Biology

**What is Vascular Disease?**

**[Vascular Conditions](#)**

## Vascular Tests

Angiogram

Ankle-Brachial Index or ABI Test

Carotid Duplex

Computed Tomography Angiography (CTA) and Magnetic Resonance Angiography (MRA) Tests

Duplex Ultrasound

## Vascular Treatments

Amputation

Aortic Dissection - Open Surgery

Aortic Dissection -EVAR

Carotid Endarterectomy

Diabetic Foot Care

Dialysis Access

Endovascular Repair of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms

PICC Line

Repair of a Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm

Thoracic Endovascular Aortic Repair

Surgical Bypass

Surgical Bypass for Aortoiliac Occlusive Disease

Thrombolytic Therapy

Catheter-Directed Thrombolytic Therapy



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## Society for Vascular Surgery

We are a not-for-profit professional medical society, composed primarily of vascular surgeons, that seeks to advance excellence and innovation in vascular health through education, advocacy, research, and public awareness.

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The SVS PAC is the single voice in Washington that ensures issues facing the care of patients with vascular disease are understood.

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