



Testing Center

WHAT IS CVI ?

Chronic Venous Insufficiency (CVI) is a non-invasive study that specifically measures the venous refill time in the lower limbs. Venous refill tests help to identify problems affecting superficial venous circulation and determine whether further treatments are necessary.

SIGNS AND SYMPTIOMS:

Venous studies are normally appropriate if at least one of the following symptoms or physical examination findings is present:

- Varicose or spider veins in the legs
- Leg heaviness, aching, cramping, tiredness
- Leg and ankle swelling and/or tenderness
- Changes in skin color, temperature, thickness
- Ulceration or skin breakdown, especially on the inside of the ankle

WHAT TO EXPECT:

The patient will be asked to remove shoes and socks and will be comfortably seated in an upright chair, preferably at the edge of the chair. This position allows maximum venous blood flow towards the heart before performing venous testing. A photoplethysmography probe will be placed above the ankle bone and slightly posterior to midline of each ankle one at a time. Patient will be asked to do dorsal flexion (ankle pumps). This part may be repeated as needed and may take anywhere from 15 minutes to 1 hour to perform.

TEST RESULTS:

The exam is sent to a vascular surgeon to be overread for interpretation, the results will be faxed or sent by interoffice mail to the ordering physician who will then call you with the results. The ordering physician will receive the results 7-10 days after the test is performed.