

This instruction is intended for our patients who are in a care relationship

The Wellbeing Services County of South West Finland

Turku University Hospital

Sclerotherapy

You are coming for treatment of vascular malformation. The procedure requires both preparation and aftercare and therefore a place will be reserved for you in the ward.

What does sclerotherapy mean?

You have been diagnosed with vascular malformation, which is treated using a method called sclerotherapy. A special medicine is injected into the venous malformation, which will shrink the deformity. The most common malformations treated with sclerotherapy are venous or lymphatic malformations.

How to prepare for the procedure?

- You will arrive at the hospital either the day before the procedure, or on the morning of the procedure, according to the instructions you receive from the ward.
- Blood tests may be taken for the procedure.
- On the day of the procedure, you must fast from all food and drink 4 hours before the time of the procedure. You may take your prescribed medications normally.
- Jewellery and watches should be removed when you come for the procedure.

How is the procedure done?

The procedure is performed under local anaesthesia or general anaesthesia. The choice of anaesthesia method depends on the area being treated. A needle is inserted in the treatment area using ultrasound and X-Ray guidance. First, the treatment area is imaged using a contrast agent. The sclerotherapy medicine is then injected into the treatment area via the same needle.

What about after the procedure?

- The procedure lasts 1-2 hours
- After the procedure, the treated area may be sore and swollen for a few days. For pain control, you can use regular pain medication as needed, unless otherwise prescribed.
- If the malformation is extensive, the procedure may require several treatments.

Where do you get the results from the procedure?

The referring outpatient clinic or ward is responsible for communicating the results of the examination to you.