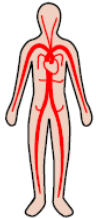




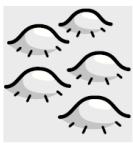
NHS

Great Ormond Street
Hospital for Children
NHS Foundation Trust

Having your veins lasered (Easy Read)



You have lots of veins in all areas of your body. They carry blood back to the heart and lungs to be given oxygen (said: ock-see-jen). Blood carries oxygen and goodness to every part of your body. Your body needs oxygen and food to work.



Sometimes a vein can go wrong so that blood collects in it. This makes the vein go lumpy. They might not look very nice.



They might hurt a bit, often in the evenings. Your legs might feel heavy and sore.



The doctors may suggest having laser (said: lay-zer) treatment to make your veins less sore.



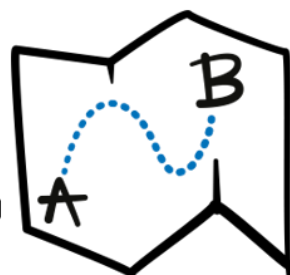
You will have an anaesthetic (said an-ess-thet-ick) for the laser treatment. You will not be able to feel anything or know what is happening.



The doctor will use an ultrasound (said: ull-tra-sow-nd) scan to look at the inside of your veins.

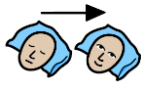


The doctor will put a thin bendy tube containing the laser into a vein in your leg. They will inject lots of water around the vein to stop your skin getting too hot from the laser.





They will turn on the laser and pull it back through your vein. This annoys the vein and makes it smaller.



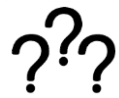
At the end, they will put a plaster on your leg and you will be able to wake up from the anaesthetic. You will have a stretchy bandage over the treated area.



The area treated will feel a bit sore for a few days. You can take pain relief if you want. It will also feel a bit wet but this is normal.



You should do your exercises to help the treated area get better.



Please ask us if you have any questions.

