

OVARIAN VEIN EMBOLISATION



A guide to your procedure after your diagnosis of pelvic venous congestion syndrome

Use this guide to help you prepare for the procedure and ask important questions to your doctor prior to the procedure.

What is ovarian vein embolisation for pelvic venous congestion syndrome?

Ovarian vein embolisation is a minimally invasive procedure for treating pelvic venous congestion syndrome, a painful condition resulting from the presence of enlarged and malfunctioning veins in the abdomen or pelvis.

How does ovarian vein embolisation work?

The procedure works by blocking blood flow through incompetent veins in the abdomen or pelvis, preventing them from engorging with blood and thereby alleviating the associated pain.

What should I expect?

Preparation and treatment processes will vary according to your doctor and the individual hospital. Your doctor will give you more specific information regarding your treatment, but the following gives a general overview of what to expect.

Prior to the ovarian vein embolisation procedure medication

Your doctor will advise you if any changes to your medication are needed prior to the procedure.

Testing

Your doctor may wish to do some tests before your procedure. It is best to discuss this based on your individual medical circumstances.

Questions

Use the time before the procedure to ask questions on anything you are unsure or nervous about.

Fasting

You might be asked not to eat or drink anything for a period of time before your procedure.

During the ovarian vein embolisation procedure

The procedure starts with the patient lying on a radiological table.

Anaesthesia/ sedation

The patient is usually awake but sedated with a medication that makes them drowsy and feeling no pain.

Catheter access

A small opening is made in the femoral or jugular vein, through which a thin catheter is inserted. The catheter is guided through the venous tree to the pelvis while the intervening physician watches the progress of the procedure using x-ray guided venography.

A venogram is performed by injecting contrast solution into the veins of interest. During this procedure, the treating doctor will assess the size of the veins, if they are functioning properly and if there is any type of obstruction.¹

Ovarian vein embolisation

If the diagnosis of Pelvic Venous Incompetence is confirmed with the venogram, coils will be placed in the abnormal veins. The coils act like small springs, causing blood to clot around them, subsequently blocking veins.

It may be necessary to repeat embolisation for other veins through the same opening and using the same catheter and microcatheter combination.

When all abnormal veins are treated, introducer sheath is removed, and the Surgeon will press on the small puncture site for about 5 minutes to prevent any bleeding.

After the ovarian vein embolisation procedure

Depending on what time of day you have your procedure and whether you have a general anaesthetic or sedation, you may be able to go home the same day or may need to spend a night in hospital.

If any changes are required to your medication, you will be advised of this either when you are discharged, or at your follow-up appointment(s).

There may be minor soreness or bruising in your groin where the catheter was inserted.

You should be able to return to normal activities within a few days.

You will need to attend follow-up appointment(s) to monitor healing of the groin and your recovery.

You should advise your doctor if any of your symptoms return.

More questions for your doctor

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For more information about pelvic venous congestion syndrome and ovarian vein embolisation, [visit our website](#)

Reference:

1. Joh, Maria et al. Ovarian Vein Embolization: How and When Should It Be Done? Techniques in Vascular & Interventional Radiology, Volume 24, Issue 1, 100732
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tvir.2021.100732>

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Individual symptoms, situations, circumstances, and results may vary. This information is not intended to be used for medical diagnosis or treatment or as a substitute for professional medical advice. Please consult your doctor or qualified healthcare provider regarding your condition and appropriate medical treatment.

Your doctor will be able to advise you if it could be a suitable treatment for you according to diagnostic and treatment guidelines. As with any medical procedure, there are risks involved. Be sure to talk with your doctor so that you thoroughly understand all of the risks and benefits associated with the implantation and use of the device.

CAUTION: Indications, contraindications, warnings, and instructions for use can be found in the product labelling supplied with each device or at www.IFU-BSCI.com.

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