LYMPHEDEMA AND VEIN DISEASE

Vein disease comes in many different presentations other than varicose veins - including Lymphedema and skin changes. Lymphedema is a long-term complication of untreated vein disease.



People in the US suffer from Lymphedema



Venous Edema

Associated clinical signs include: spider veins, varicose veins, hyperpigmentation, or ulcers



78%

Of Lymphedema cases occur in morbidly obese patients (also linked with an increased rate of venous insufficiency)



Chronic Venous Insufficiency

CVI is one common secondary cause of lymphedema

Once Lymphedema has occured, it is irreversible.





Venous Edema

Venous Edema is swelling that cannot be accommodated by a normal lymphatic system. It can be unilateral or bilateral. If bilateral, it tends to be asymmetric. There is pitting. It also may have associated clinical signs: spider veins, varicose veins, hyperpigmentation, or ulcers.



Lipedema

Lipedema is bilateral and symmetrical. It usually spares the foot and ankle cuff. It almost exclusively presents in female patients. It does not exhibit pitting. Associated symptoms include pain, tenderness on pressure, easy bruising, and persistent enlargement of the extremities despite elevation or weight loss.



Lymphedema

Lymphedema is swelling resulting from lymphatic dysfunction. It can be unilateral or bilateral, and is positive for Stemmer's. In stage one, it is completely relieved by elevation and exhibits pitting. In stage two, it is incompletely relieved by elevation - progressing to non-pitting later on in the stage. In stage three, it causes elephantiasis with severe fibrosis and warty overgrowths. It is non-pitting.



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