

Percutaneous Valvuloplasty – the first method to restore insufficient veins without surgery.

To be proud of the progress of endovenous treatments is not enough. We have to remember that we are still just removing or closing veins we are not able to heal.

For the majority of insufficient veins it may be assumed that intrafascial **valve malfunctions** are the primary cause. Most of the cases will show dehiscent valves and dilated vein walls. To normalize this dilatation and to heal malfunctioning valves is the aim of a new method called **percutaneous extraluminal valvuloplasty**. The dilated valve zone is re-shaped by perivenously injected hyaluronan gel.

All stages of vein disease start from small and local disorders. If valve zones are involved, at least early detected **dilatations should be reversible**, restoring vein function without any surgery or occluding intervention (fig. 1).

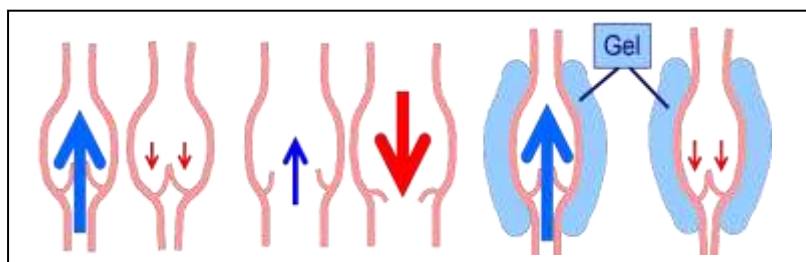


fig. 1: a) healthy vein, b) insufficient valves, c) restored valve function

The **IntraShape Restore device** uses cross-linked hyaluronan with a tissue half life of 9 – 12 months. The injection is performed with a special tool (fig. 2, prototype fig. 3) allowing selection of sharp or blunt tip by switching. Near to blood vessels all manoeuvres are strictly done with the blunt tip.

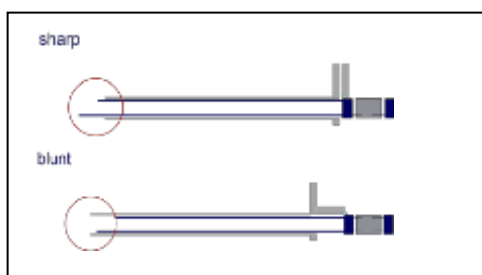


fig. 2



fig. 3

While stiffer gels provide better volume effects, softer gels allow a distribution that is more precise and thus require less volume. Hemodynamic success is achievable in almost every case (>95%).

Status: Two clinical studies completed, approval in progress. Commercially available 2018.

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