



"I would absolutely recommend this treatment to anyone....the results have been really amazing"

- Sally Cooke, ClariVein® customer.

INTRODUCTION

Some two-and-a-half years after having her varicose veins removed using the minimally-invasive and virtually painfree ClariVein® procedure, Sally Cooke says the veins have not returned and she is delighted with the results.

BACKGROUND

Sally, a medical photographer, had the procedure in March 2011 after experiencing pain and swelling in her left leg and ankle for nearly a year, which was interfering with her daily life.

Sally had developed a varicose vein during her first pregnancy some years earlier. She discovered that standing for long periods became very uncomfortable. Sally had to do the ironing sitting down with her leg elevated and would not wear shorts or skirts because she was self-conscious about the appearance of the vein.

After being referred by her GP, Sally opted for ClariVein treatment at her local NHS hospital. She found it quick, a little bit uncomfortable but not painful. Her leg felt a bit tender afterwards, but nothing more than a bruise.

CHALLENGE

At the time that Sally had her procedure, ClariVein was a relatively new treatment. It takes about 20 minutes and, unlike some non-surgical treatments, does not involve multiple painful injections and does not use heat to seal the vein. Patients can walk in and walk out of the clinic and carry on with their normal life, even returning to work on the same day!

Immediately after her treatment, Sally reported that it had made "a huge difference" to her confidence. She had even bought a short dress and was planning to attend a ball.

But it was not known whether patients would see a recurrence of the varicose vein in the future. The challenge was to track a patient and see what the ClariVein experience was like more than two years later.







SOLUTION

In October 2013, more than two-and-a-half years after the procedure, Sally told us of her ClariVein experience: "I have an incredibly busy life. I work full time as a clinical photographer at a London-based NHS Trust. The job is very varied and can see me sitting for long periods working at a computer or on my feet all day photographing and walking about the site a lot often carrying heavy equipment".

Q: Has ClariVein proved to be a long-lasting solution (or have the varicose veins returned?)

A: So far I have had no recurrence of the varicose veins (touch wood)!

Q: Have you had any recurring problems with your legs (pain, irritation etc.?)

A: Again touch wood, I have had no recurring problems - in fact no problems at all since the procedure.

Q: Do you still feel confident going out socially, going on holiday etc?
A: My confidence is unbelievable. I'm happy to wear shorts on holiday or when running, and to wear skirts when playing tennis which I never did before. I'll happily wear a dress when going out socially.

Q: In terms of your social/family life, how important is it to have varicose vein-free legs?

A: I am also a mum to two very active young boys and that requires me to be fit and active constantly. I love sport (running, tennis and pilates) and as well as keeping me fit, I use it to help me unwind from my responsibilities at work and as a mother. Being pain-free I am able to take part in all the sports I love. My children also love to swim but they are still too young to go on their own. I am more than happy now to take them swimming and don't feel conscious about my legs at all.

Q: Would you recommend ClariVein to other people who suffer from varicose veins, particularly those who still think that varicose vein treatment involves surgery and six weeks off work?

A: I would absolutely recommend this treatment to anyone considering it. Taking time out of work or from being a mother just wasn't an option for me and this procedure answered that problem. The recovery period was so short and the most irritating bit was wearing the special stockings after the procedure. There was very little pain and the results have been really amazing.

THE BENEFITS

- Long-lasting, virtually pain-free varicose vein removal without surgery
- No multiple injections or heat-sealing of veins
- Walk-in, walk-out procedure
- Quick booking for treatment at private clinics; available in some cases on the NHS

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