

## **Varicose Vein Stripping vs Haemodynamic Correction (CHIVA): a Long Term Randomised Trial.**

[Carandina S](#), [Mari C](#), [De Palma M](#), [Marcellino MG](#), [Cisno C](#), [Legnaro A](#), [Liboni A](#), [Zamboni P](#).

Department of Surgical, Anaesthesiological, and Radiological Sciences, Day-Surgery Unit, Vascular Diseases Center, University of Ferrara, Italy.

**OBJECTIVES:** To compare the long-term results of stripping vs. haemodynamic correction (Ambulatory Conservative Haemodynamic Management of Varicose Veins, CHIVA) in the treatment of superficial venous incompetence resulting in chronic venous disease (CVD). **DESIGN:** Randomised comparative trial.

**PATIENTS:** 150 patients affected by CVD, CEAP clinical class 2-6, were randomised to saphenous stripping or to CHIVA. **METHODS:** The clinical outcome was assessed by an independent observer who recorded the Hobbs clinical score for treated limbs. A subjective report of the outcome was provided by the patients. Recurrence of varices was assessed by both clinical examination and duplex ultrasonography. **RESULTS:** The mean follow-up was 10 years, 26 patients were lost to follow-up. The Hobbs score similar in the stripping and CHIVA groups. However recurrence of varicose veins was significantly higher in the stripping group (CHIVA 18%; stripping 35%,  $P < 0.04$  Fisher's exact test), without significant differences in the rate of recurrences from the sapheno-femoral junction. The associated risk of recurrence at ten years was doubled in the stripping group (OR 2.2, 95% CI 1-5,  $P = 0.04$ ). **CONCLUSIONS:** Recurrent varices occurred more frequently following saphenous stripping than after CHIVA treatment. The deliberate preservation of the saphenous trunk as a route of venous drainage in the CHIVA group may have been a factor reducing the recurrence rate.

PMID: 17964822 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]