General risks

They include but are not limited to the following.

There are risks and complications with this procedure.

Procedure.

result in some varicose veins remaining after the

to the damaged veins and encourage them to scar up

bandages after surgery. The bandages apply pressure

is not to remove all the varicose veins but to damage

pulling out pieces of vein through small cuts. The aim

is to remove the veins from the groin to the knee.

Other veins in the thigh and lower leg are dealt with by

pulling out pieces of vein through small cuts. The aim

is not to remove all the varicose veins but to damage

the veins sufficiently to induce scarring.

A vital part of the treatment is to wear compression

bandages after surgery. The bandages apply pressure
to the damaged veins and encourage them to scar up

closed. Failure to keep this pressure on the veins will

result in some varicose veins remaining after the

procedure.

C. Risks of a varicose veins procedure

There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

General risks:

- Infection can occur, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.

- Bleeding could occur and may require a return to the operating room. Bleeding is more common if you have been taking blood thinning drugs such as Warfarin, Asprin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasantin).

- Small areas of the lung can collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.

- Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.

- Heart attack or stroke could occur due to the strain on the heart.

- Blood clot in the leg (DVT) causing pain and swelling. In rare cases part of the clot may break off and go to the lungs.

- Death as a result of this procedure is possible.

Specific risks:

- Hard tender lumps at the site of the veins.

- As often the skin about the lower leg is very thin, ulcers in this area may occur.

- Rarely damage may occur to the deeper veins or arteries of the leg.

- All the veins may not be removed and some varicose veins may remain in the leg after the operation.

- Rarely the nerve which gives sensation to the foot may be damaged and numbness occurs in this foot.

- Healing of the wound may be abnormal and the wound can be thickened and red (a keloid scar) and the scar may be painful.
G. Patient consent

I acknowledge that the doctor has explained;
- my medical condition and the proposed procedure, including additional treatment if the doctor finds something unexpected. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- the anaesthetic required for this procedure. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- other relevant procedure/treatment options and their associated risks.
- my prognosis and the risks of not having the procedure.
- that no guarantee has been made that the procedure will improve my condition even though it has been carried out with due professional care.
- the procedure may include a blood transfusion.
- tissues and blood may be removed and could be used for diagnosis or management of my condition, stored and disposed of sensitively by the hospital.
- if immediate life-threatening events happen during the procedure, they will be treated based on my discussions with the doctor or my Acute Resuscitation Plan.
- a doctor other than the Consultant may conduct the procedure. I understand this could be a doctor undergoing further training.

I have been given the following Patient Information Sheet/s:
- About Your Anaesthetic OR
- Epidural and Spinal Anaesthetic
- Varicose Veins

I was able to ask questions and raise concerns with the doctor about my condition, the proposed procedure and its risks, and my treatment options. My questions and concerns have been discussed and answered to my satisfaction.

I understand I have the right to change my mind at any time, including after I have signed this form but, preferably following a discussion with my doctor.

I understand that image/s or video footage may be recorded as part of and during my procedure and that these image/s or video/s will assist the doctor to provide appropriate treatment.

On the basis of the above statements,
1. What do I need to know about this procedure?

The superficial leg veins are disconnected from the deep leg veins through a cut in the groin. This stops back pressure from the leaky valve here. The vein is then stripped from groin to knee. Other veins in the thigh and lower leg are dealt with by pulling out pieces of vein through small cuts. The aim is not to remove all the varicose veins but to damage the veins sufficiently to induce scarring. A vital part of the treatment is to wear compression bandages after surgery. The bandages apply pressure to the damaged veins and encourage them to scar up closed. Failure to keep this pressure on the veins will result in some varicose veins remaining after the procedure.

2. My anaesthetic

This procedure will require an anaesthetic. See About Your Anaesthetic OR Epidural and Spinal Anaesthetic for information about the anaesthetic and the risks involved. If you have any concerns, discuss these with your doctor.

If you have not been given an information sheet, please ask for one.

3. What are the risks of this specific procedure?

There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

General risks:

- Infection can occur, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Bleeding could occur and may require a return to the operating room. Bleeding is more common if you have been taking blood thinning drugs such as Warfarin, Asprin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persatin or Asasatin).
- Small areas of the lung can collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.
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- Blood clot in the leg (DVT) causing pain and swelling. In rare cases part of the clot may break off and go to the lungs.
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- Rarely damage may occur to the deeper veins or arteries of the leg.
- All the veins may not be removed and some varicose veins may remain in the leg after the operation.
- Rarely the nerve which gives sensation to the foot may be damaged and numbness occurs in this foot.
- Healing of the wound may be abnormal and the wound can be thickened and red (a keloid scar) and the scar may be painful.

Notes to talk to my doctor about: