Varicose vein investigations

As you are aware, your doctor has requested that you visit the Vascular Laboratory in order to have a scan of your varicose veins. The results of this investigation will help your consultant plan any future treatment.

How long will the test take?
The test will take approximately 10 - 15 minutes and you will be required to stand for the procedure. You will be able to leave the department as soon as the test is complete.

What will the test involve?
You will be asked to remove your trousers/skirt, shoes and socks. Gel is applied to one or both legs and ultrasound pictures are taken of your varicose veins, by passing a hand held scanner down your legs.

Does the test hurt?
No, the procedure is completely painless - and does not involve needles! There are no known side-effects associated with this procedure.

Alternative procedure options
Your consultant has recommended this procedure as being the best option. There are no alternative investigations that will provide these diagnostic results, however there is always the option of not undergoing this investigation. If you decide not to go ahead with this investigation, then you would need to discuss this with your consultant.

Results
You will be required to attend the outpatient clinic at a later date, to obtain the test results.

If you have any queries, or require further information please telephone 01332 787181 and ask to speak to a vascular technician.

NHS Direct is a 24 hour nurse led, confidential service providing general health care advice and information.
Telephone 0845 4647 or visit the website at www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

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