

**Table XVIII. Endovenous laser ablation versus cryostripping**

4 articles, 1 RCT

Reference in same color means same RCT

Operative procedure	Reference	Summary
<p style="text-align: center;">EVLA <i>versus</i> cryostripping</p>	<p>Disselhoff BC, der Kinderen DJ, Moll FL. Is there a risk for lymphatic complications after endovenous laser treatment versus cryostripping of the great saphenous vein ? A prospective study. <i>Phlebology</i>. 2008;23:10-14.</p>	<p>Single-center study. 33 patients with primary symptomatic incompetent GSV below the knee. No data on SSV, no previous operative treatment of VV, no DVT. CEAP clinical classification C2. Group I (n=17): 810-nm diode laser, bare fiber, continuous laser withdrawal <i>versus</i> Group II (n=16): HL+ cryostripping Anesthesia: general (day case procedure) or local (outpatient procedure) <b>Results at 6 months of follow-up:</b> One complication in group II =Lymphedema grade1?</p>
	<p>Disselhoff BC, der Kinderen DJ, Kelder JC, Moll FL. Randomized clinical trial comparing endovenous laser with cryostripping for great saphenous varicose veins. <i>Br J Surg</i>. 2008; 95:1232-1238.</p>	<p>Single-center study. 120 patients with primary symptomatic incompetent GSV below the knee. No data on SSV, no previous operative treatment of VV, no DVT. CEAP clinical classification C2. Group I (n=60): 810-nm diode laser, bare fiber, continuous laser withdrawal <i>versus</i> Group II (n=60): HL+ cryostripping</p>

		<p>Anesthesia: general (day case procedure) or local (outpatient procedure)</p> <p><b>Post-operative results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Cryostripping procedure (group II) quicker than EVLA. P&lt;0.001</li> <li>. Less post-operative pain in group I (EVLA) compared with group II. P=0.003)</li> <li>. Shorter time to return to normal activity in group I (EVLA) compared with group II. P&lt;0.001</li> </ul> <p><b>Results at 2 years of follow-up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. No difference between groups in terms of VV recurrence, HRQoL improvement (AVVSS) or clinical amelioration (VCSS)</li> </ul>
	<p>Disselhoff BC, Buskens E, Kelder JC, der Kinderen DJ, Moll FL Randomized comparison of Costs and Cost-effectiveness of cryostripping and Endovenous Laser ablation for Varicose veins: 2 –Year results. <i>Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg.</i> 2009;37:557-63.</p>	<p>Single-center study.</p> <p>120 patients with primary symptomatic incompetent GSV below the knee. No data on SSV, no previous operative treatment of VV, no DVT.</p> <p>CEAP clinical classification C2.</p> <p>Group I (n=60): 810-nm diode laser, bare fiber, continuous laser withdrawal</p> <p>versus</p> <p>Group II (n=60): HL+ cryostripping</p> <p>Anesthesia: general (day case procedure) or local (outpatient procedure)</p> <p><b>Results at 2 years of follow-up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Cryostripping procedure (group II) less expensive (P=0.234), more cost-effective (P=0.788) and with a better QALY (P=0.824) than EVLA</li> </ul>

	<p>Disselhoff BC, der Kinderen DJ, Kelder JC, Moll FL. Five-year results of a randomized clinical trial comparing endovenous laser ablation with cryostripping or great saphenous varicose veins. <i>Br J Surg.</i> 2011; 98:1107-1111.</p>	<p>Single-center study.  120 patients with primary symptomatic incompetent GSV below the knee. No data on SSV, no previous operative treatment of VV, no DVT.  CEAP clinical classification C2.  Group I (n=60): 810-nm diode laser, bare fiber, continuous laser withdrawal  <i>versus</i>  Group II (n=60): HL+ cryostripping  Anesthesia: general (day case procedure) or local (outpatient procedure)  <b>Results at 5 years of follow-up:</b>  . VCSS and AVVSS values improved significantly after treatment in both groups, and were maintained for 5 years, but with no significant difference between the groups.  . Neovascularization was more common after cryostripping, but incompetent tributaries were more common after EVLA.</p>
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**Abbreviations:**

AVVSS= Aberdeen varicose vein severity score; DVT=deep venous thrombosis; EVLA = endovenous laser ablation; GSV=great saphenous vein; HL = high ligation ; HRQoL= health- related quality of Life ; QALY= Quality Adjusted Life Year ;SSV=small saphenous vein; VCSS= venous clinical severity score; VV=varicose veins.