

**Table XXVI. Endovenous laser ablation versus sclerotherapy (UGFS)**

**3 articles, 1 RCT**

*Reference underlined in color means same RCT*

| Operative procedure                       | Reference   | Summary   |
|---|---|---|
| EVLA + phlebectomy<br><i>versus</i> USGFS | Lattimer C R, Kalodiki E, Azzam M, Geroulakos G. Validation of a New Duplex Derived Haemodynamic Effectiveness Score, the Saphenous Treatment Score, in Quantifying Varicose Vein Treatments. <i>Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg.</i> 2012;43:348-54.                                    | <p>Monocenter study.<br/>66 symptomatic patients presenting primary GSV incompetence and refluxing SFJ.<br/>No SPJ reflux. No deep veins anomaly<br/>CEAP clinical classification C2-C6<br/>Group I (n=28): UGFS<br/><i>versus</i><br/>Group II (n=38): EVLA II 1470 nm diode laser, delivering intermittent energy (sequential withdrawal) phlebectomy under local anesthesia<br/><b>Results at 3 months of follow-up:</b><br/>. Patients were evaluated by DUS and APG to build a saphenous treatment score (STS)<br/>. There was no difference above knee in terms of STS improvement between the 2 procedures</p> |
|   | Lattimer C R, Azzam M, Kalodiki E, Shawish E Geroulakos G. Cost and Effectiveness of Laser with Phlebectomies Compared with Foam Sclerotherapy in Superficial Venous Insufficiency. Early Results of a Randomised Controlled Trial. <i>Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg.</i> 2012;43:594- | <p>Monocenter study<br/>100 symptomatic patients presenting primary GSV incompetence and refluxing SFJ.<br/>No SPJ reflux<br/>No deep veins anomaly<br/>CEAP clinical classification C2-C6<br/>Group I (n=50): UGFS<br/><i>versus</i><br/>Group II (n=50): EVLA II 1470 nm diode laser, sequential withdrawal + phlebectomy under local anesthesia<br/><b>Results at 3 months of follow-up:</b></p>   |

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|--|--|---|
|  | 600.   | <p>. Above knee GSV obliteration rate, AVVQ, VCSS, VFI: no significant difference between groups</p> <p>. Group I significantly outperformed EVLA in terms of cost, treatment duration, pain, analgesia requirements and recovery.</p>  |
|  | <p>Lattimer C R, Kalodiki E, Azzam M, Makris GC, Somiyajalu S, Geroulakos G. Interim results on abolishing reflux alongside a randomized clinical trial on laser ablation with phlebectomies versus foam sclerotherapy. <i>International Angiology</i> 2013;22(4):394-403.</p> | <p>Monocenter study</p> <p>100 symptomatic patients presenting primary GSV incompetence and refluxing SFJ.</p> <p>No SPJ reflux. No deep veins anomaly. CEAP clinical classification C2-C6</p> <p>Group I (n =50): UGFS</p> <p>versus</p> <p>Group II (n=50) EVLA II 1470 nm diode laser, sequential withdrawal + phlebectomy under local anesthesia</p> <p><b>Results at 15 months of follow-up:</b></p> <p>. Occlusion of the GSV was more effective in group II :42/44 (93. 5%) than in group I 31/46 (67.4%). However, both techniques were equally effective at abolishing global venous reflux with 43% in Group I (UGFS) and 41% in group II.</p> <p>. The high reflux rate was not related to deterioration of quality of life and this reflux was largely asymptomatic</p> |

**Abbreviations:**

APG= air plethysmography; AVVQ =Aberdeen Varicose Vein Questionnaire; DUS= duplex ultrasound; EVLA = endovenous laser ablation; GSV= great saphenous vein; SFJ= saphenofemoral junction; SPJ=saphenopopliteal junction; UGFS= ultrasound guided foam sclerotherapy; VCSS= venous clinical severity score; VFI= venous filling index