



Effective February 1, 2014 the cost of the sclerotherapy agent glycerin/lidocaine will be the responsibility of our patients.

Recently Georgia state law changed regarding drugs from compounding pharmacies. Glycerin/lidocaine is a mixture of two common medications, and has been safely used worldwide for many decades as a sclerotherapy drug. As is true of many older, commonly used medications in the U.S., no drug manufacturer has patent or specific FDA approval for use of glycerin/lidocaine for sclerotherapy. As such, glycerin/lidocaine is made by compounding pharmacies at the order of a physician.

In the past, a physician could order from a compounding pharmacy and distribute the medication to different patients. The state of Georgia now requires that a prescription for each individual patient be received by the compounding pharmacy, and the delivered medication be labeled with the specific patient's name and be used only for that patient.

The cost of the medication will now be the responsibility of the patient, just as any prescription drug would be. Our professional fee for a sclerotherapy session covers the procedure of injecting the veins. There is no mark up on the cost of the glycerin/lidocaine. You pay the same price we pay, which is \$50 per 30 ml vial. Most patients only need one vial. The medication is not covered by drug plans.

The events leading to this new policy are beyond our control. This change is necessary to comply with state law, and to offer you the safest, highest quality medical care at VEINatlanta.