

CCSVI stands for chronic cerebral-spinal venous insufficiency which means impaired blood flow from the brain back to the heart. In most cases, such problematic blood flow results from blockages in the one or both of the internal jugular veins which carry most of the blood from the brain when one is lying down. Such blockages have a variety of causes including internal structures such as webs, the occurrence of malformed valves, and external pressure on the veins from bone, muscle or an artery.

## **CCSVI AND MS**

CCSVI was found to occur in most persons with MS by numerous researchers and practitioners over the last 6 years. Unfortunately, because CCSVI relief can potentially eliminate the need for MS drugs, MS researchers who are generously funded by drug companies have mounted a disinformation campaign about CCSVI and, by using inadequate and highly questionable research methods, some have claimed CCSVI does not exist.

Overall, the available data leaves no reasonable doubt that CCSVI exists and that it is highly associated with MS. Furthermore, the occurrence of CCSVI fits well with the MS disease process in that it causes the veins in the brain to become leaky and to allow the easy passage of the immune system into the brain. This in turn greatly increases central nervous system inflammation which is the undisputed hallmark of MS.

## **TESTING FOR AND TREATING CCSVI**

Anyone with MS, especially those in the early phase, should be tested to see if they have CCSVI. There is about a 90-95% chance that they do. Such testing must be done by a facility which has a solid track record of being able to recognize CCSVI. Once the presence of CCSVI has been determined, it is important to have the vein blockages opened up if possible. In most cases CCSVI can be treated with angioplasty of one or both of the jugular veins and, in rare cases, one or more of other veins which drain the brain.

## **BENEFITS**

By restoring proper blood flow from the brain, the veins of the brain can then strengthen their walls and greatly reduce the leakiness that allows problematic immune cells to enter the brain. This in turn reduces inflammation and allows healing in the brain and the lessening of symptoms. Of course, CCSVI treatment in conjunction with the nutritional strategies which also reduce inflammation and strengthen the veins can be very effective for promoting well being and the resolution of such symptoms as brain fog, fatigue and bladder problems. Many people have reported major improvement following CCSVI treatment and practitioners report about one third of their clients enjoy substantial benefits with another third having minor benefit.

## **SAFETY**

Tens of thousands of CCSVI treatments have been done in clinics in numerous countries and serious side effects have been extremely rare. Overall CCSVI has a far better safety record than the current MS drugs and is considered a very safe procedure.

## **REOCCURRENCE OF CCSVI**

In many cases (estimated to be at least 50%) the blockages in the jugular veins reoccur and the problems associated with CCSVI return. Currently there is no reliable way to prevent this from happening or to reverse the repeat blockages outside of having angioplasty again.

Anecdotally it has been found that vigorous exercise, which substantially increases blood flow to and from the brain, can cause the veins to reopen.

## **FINDING A CCSVI CLINIC**

To find a reliable clinic for CCSVI testing and treatment, it is necessary to go online and to get advice from persons who have had it done. MS neurologists who are compromised by their close association with drug companies will not provide reliable information regarding CCSVI.

**The two best sites for CCSVI information are:**

Facebook CCSVI in MS (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/CCSVI-in-Multiple-Sclerosis/110796282297>)

& CCSVI Locator (<http://ccsvi-ms.ning.com/>)

*MS Hope has plans to compile and maintain an up to date list of reliable clinics and their contact information.*