

New discovery: Liberation treatment for multiple sclerosis

by: SUZY COHEN Dear Pharmacist
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Dear Pharmacist: I have a friend with multiple sclerosis who lives overseas. She tells me she is cured after vein surgery in her neck. She said she had CCSVI. I also have MS, but I can't find a doctor in Florida who knows anything about this. Can you help? — A.L. Miami, Fla.

The procedure is dubbed "The Liberation Treatment" and it's still experimental. Our medical establishment moves painfully slow, and there's little incentive to embrace this.

Desperate to find a cure for his MS-stricken wife, Dr. Paolo Zamboni, a professor at the University of Ferrara in Italy, discovered that people with MS have a higher incidence of constricted veins in their neck. Zamboni's research is turning the MS world upside down because MS is thought to be an auto-immune disease, not a vascular condition.

CCSVI stands for Chronic Cerebrospinal Venous Insufficiency.

This medical term just describes a situation of narrowed veins.

Doctors can see the veins with a noninvasive test such as a Doppler ultrasound.

If restricted, circulation is compromised, then blood (and iron in the blood) slowly reflux, and accumulate in your brain and spinal cord, resulting in neurological issues. The excess iron load damages cells. I suspect that other dangerous metals accumulate too, , but this is just my theory.

Researchers at the University of Buffalo found that people with MS have about 2 1/2 times higher incidence of stenosis — narrowing of their extracranial veins. I realize we need more studies, but this one gives many people hope.

Zamboni's liberation procedure takes the kink out of the hose and allows proper blood (and iron) to flow out of the brain, which explains why symptoms might improve within hours. The before-and-after footage of people who underwent the treatment are jaw-dropping. (tulsaworld.com/zamboni.)

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