

Vessel Forte™

Support for veins, blood vessels and capillaries



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According to The American College of Phlebology, approximately 80 million Americans suffer from some type of vein disorder, ranging from unsightly varicose veins to painful chronic venous insufficiencies. Many factors can contribute to a person's susceptibility, including pregnancy, obesity (additional weight adds increased pressure on the body), hormonal changes, menopause, and prolonged sitting or standing.

Vessel Forte™ is a synergistic combination of natural botanical extracts that have been extensively researched for their benefits in the improvement of various blood vessel disorders by helping to support optimal blood and lymph circulation.

The ingredients in Vessel Forte™ may be beneficial in:

- Supporting blood vessel strength and elasticity, and vein valve integrity, by stimulating collagen synthesis and reducing collagen/elastin degradation
- Reducing capillary fragility and permeability by supporting the integrity of the cells and structures lining the blood capillaries
- Reducing blood clotting and risk of thrombosis
- Providing anti-inflammatory and antioxidant benefits

Highlights of Vessel Forte™

DiosVein™ is standardized diosmin, a naturally occurring compound derived from the bioflavonoid hesperidin found in citrus rinds. Research shows diosmin to be a vascular-protecting agent, promoting circulatory health by helping to increase venous tone, improve lymphatic drainage, and inhibit the inflammatory response that accompanies venous pressure. It has been shown to be beneficial in all stages of chronic venous insufficiency, helping to alleviate capillary damage, venous leg ulcers, and edema (*Ramelet AA. Angiology. 2001*); (*Katsenis K. Curr Vasc Pharmacol. 2005*).

The diosmin found in DiosVein™ has been highly refined through a complex process known as micronization, which results in minute particles, much smaller in size than a standard diosmin particle. This allows for extremely fast, efficient delivery to the bloodstream and the inner lining of veins.

The seeds of the horse chestnut tree (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) are a rich source of escin, the main biologically active component found in horse chestnut, which gives this herb its anti-edema and vasoprotective properties. It is also beneficial in improving microcirculation, the venous network involving the circulation of blood from the heart to the capillaries, which are the smallest blood vessels, and back to the heart. Maintaining the structural integrity of capillaries is extremely important for proper functioning of the venous system.

Grape Seed Extract is standardized to contain 95% proanthocyanidins, which have been shown to help improve blood circulation by strengthening capillaries, arteries, and veins. This is achieved mainly by the protective antioxidant effect of grape seed extract on epithelial cells and the reduction in the breakdown of mucopolysaccharides in the structures surrounding the capillaries. Mucopolysaccharides are one of the main components of the cellular matrix that maintains vascular integrity.

Proanthocyanidins bind to collagen and mucopolysaccharides and protect them from various degradation enzymes, thus providing an overall sealing effect. The result is less fluid leakage and edema, which can help reduce pain and swelling in the legs. Because of its antioxidant effect and ability to bind with collagen, research suggests that grape seed extract is beneficial in promoting skin health, cell health, elasticity, and flexibility.

Vessel Forte™ May Support:

- Varicose Veins
- Spider Veins
- Hemorrhoids
- Heavy Leg Syndrome
- Chronic Venous Insufficiency
- Deep Vein Thrombosis
- Thrombotic events related to long flights
- Venous inefficiencies in general
- Cardiovascular microvascular issues (carotid/femoral plaques)
- Diabetes (supports capillary function and reduces idiopathic edema)
- Skin disorders (collagen support, wound healing, scars)

Gotu Kola (*Centella asiatica*) stimulates collagen synthesis and helps improve the tone and elasticity of vascular walls. It has also been shown to improve microcirculation and decrease ankle swelling and capillary permeability as seen in venous hypertension (high pressure in veins from damage to venous system) and diabetic microangiopathy (thickening of capillary membranes) (*Belcaro GV, et al, Angiology. 1990*); (*Cesarone MR, et al, Angiology. 2001*). Capillaries whose lining is damaged are more permeable than they should be, resulting in edema and fluid leakage. This leads to destructive alterations to the tissues surrounding the blood vessels, potentially worsening any venous disorder.

Quercetin, a flavonoid found abundantly in red onion, capers, and leafy green culinary herbs, supports the maintenance of healthy blood vessels and inhibits platelet aggregation and thrombus formation. Studies show that orally administered quercetin is highly bioavailable in humans, and that the beneficial effects on platelet aggregation occur as quickly as 30 minutes after ingestion. These findings underlie epidemiological evidence that individuals who consume high amounts of quercetin-rich foods have reduced risks for thrombosis and cardiovascular disease.

Vitamin C is well-known for its role in collagen synthesis and supporting the integrity of connective tissue. As a source of the hydroxyl groups (-OH) that contribute to the formation of the modified amino acids hydroxyproline and hydroxylysine, this nutrient is critical for the generation and maintenance of healthy collagen-based blood vessels. Easy bruising and bleeding may be indicative of poor vitamin C status (as was behind the discovery of this vitamin for curing scurvy).

Studies support the efficacy of combined preparations of vitamin C as ascorbic acid, hesperidin, horse chestnut, and gotu kola in improving chronic phlebopathy of the lower limbs, varicose veins, and hemorrhoids. Supplementation with various combinations of these compounds has resulted in subjectively improved overall quality of life as well as objective measures, such as reduced ankle circumference (due to decreased lower leg edema).

Supplement Facts			
Serving Size 4 capsules Servings Per Container 30			
Amount Per Serving	% Daily Value	Amount Per Serving	% Daily Value
Vitamin C (as Ascorbic Acid)	1000 mg 1667%	Horse Chestnut Extract (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)(fruit) [standardized to contain 20% aescin]	200 mg *
DiosVein™ From Sweet Orange (<i>Citrus sinensis</i>) [standardized to contain 90% diosmin]	900 mg *	Grape Seed Extract (<i>Vitis vinifera</i>)(seed) [standardized to contain 95% proanthocyanidins]	200 mg
Quercetin	300 mg *		
Gotu Kola Extract (<i>Centella asiatica</i>)(plant) [standardized to contain 10% triterpenes]	200 mg *		

Other Ingredients: Cellulose (capsule), microcrystalline cellulose, vegetable stearate.



How to Use Vessel Forte™:

- Take four capsules per day, or as directed by your health care practitioner
- Consider combining with Ultimate Antiox Full Spectrum, C+BioFizz™ or Stellar C™ for additional antioxidant support

Caution: This product may be contraindicated prior to surgery or in combination with blood thinning medication.

For a list of references cited in this document, please visit:

<http://catalog.designsforhealth.com/assets/itemresources/Vessel%20Forte%20References%20-%202015.pdf>

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