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COUP D'OEIL

Atrophie Blanche (C4b) Can Be Reversible After Targeted Treatment

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A 51 year old female teacher presented with complaints of heaviness and nocturnal cramps in the right leg eight years after high ligation and stripping of the great saphenous vein. Clinical examination revealed recurrent varicose veins, most prominent over the medial malleolus and foot (Panel A, marked black on the skin), where a large area of atrophie blanche was seen (arrows). Duplex ultrasound showed incompetence of the small and great saphenous veins and their tributaries. One year after radiofrequency ablation and phlebectomies, followed by additional foam sclerotherapy at the medial malleolus six weeks later, the atrophie blanche had recovered almost completely (Panel B).

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