

Session : **Lecture** , Oct 14th, 2011, morning

- Claude Franceschi, : *CHIVA today*

ABSTRACT

After almost a century of varicose veins ablative procedures, CHIVA cure, a conservative treatment based on a hemodynamic model was described in 1988. Cure CHIVA, French acronym for cure Conservatrice et Hémodynamique de l'Insuffisance Veineuse en Ambulatoire, consists in disconnecting the closed shunts and fractioning the hydrostatic column responsible for varicose veins overload and preserving the superficial veins even if varicose in order to respect the drainage so preventing varicose recurrence. Therefore this method is supposed to restore the venous pressure in order to heal the trophic disorders (oedema, hypodermatitis, skin changes and ulcer), reduce the varicose veins size to normal and at the same time spare the great saphenous trunk for future arterial by-pass necessity. Hundreds of studies and trials were carried out over the last 20 years. 4 randomized and controlled trials (A2 recommendation grade) attest for the prevalence of CHIVA versus Stripping, Gold Standard of ablative methods. These EBM data bring CHIVA at the top of the current methods, in terms of recommendations regarding not only the therapeutic efficiency and the lesser rate of recurrence, but also the necessity of sparing the great saphenous trunk for future possible arterial by-pass necessity. This method is mini-invasive and ambulatory, so ideal for the patient but needs practitioner expertise in venous hemodynamics and duplex venous assessment that is not yet today achieved in too many places.