

**ROBERT W. TAHARA, MD, FACS**  
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**What to Expect During Your Office Visit at Allegheny Vein & Vascular**

If this is your first visit to AVV, you will have received a new patient packet to fill out. For your convenience and to expedite the process, we ask that you mail back the completed forms prior to your appointment. That way, your information will already be in our system when you arrive and the only thing you will have to do is check in with our front office. If you have your insurance copay, please know what your insurance carrier requires you to pay and bring your insurance card with you. If you brought your packet with you instead of mailing it ahead of time, your wait time will be longer as our office staff and nurses have to enter your information into our computer system prior to you seeing Dr. Tahara. There are times when new patients are scheduled before mail would arrive, in this case, you would be required to fill out the new patient packet when you arrive in the office (we'll ask you to arrive up to 90 minutes earlier than your scheduled appointment).

On every visit, our office staff will give you a simple checklist regarding any symptoms you may be having. It takes just a minute or two to fill out, giving us a better picture of your overall health as well as any issues that may need to be taken care of immediately.

One of our nurses will take you into a room to have your vital signs recorded and from there, will escort you to your exam room. Shannon or Danielle will ask you a series of questions and perform an initial assessment. You will be asked to take your shoes, socks, and pants off for this assessment (we'll give you a gown to wear!) Your best bet is to wear loose, comfortable clothing and shoes that are easy for you to take on and off. As Dr. Tahara sees other patients, you may have a wait in the exam room. We give each patient individual attention, and Dr. Tahara will attend to every patient to direct their vascular condition in the best possible way. Most of our patients bring in a book they're reading or one of the magazines from the waiting room. We do everything possible to make your wait time as short as it can be, but situations that need to be taken care of immediately do arise and we ask you to be patient. We'll do our very best to keep you updated on delay times while you're in the office.

Dr. Tahara will spend time with you, review the nurse's notes, the symptoms you circled on that sheet, review any CDs that you brought with you from prior testing you've had done, perform an assessment, answer your questions, and will let you know the next steps he's going to take in your care. He'll talk to you about your symptoms and your vascular condition. You might be scheduled for diagnostic testing, our informative vein class, or a follow up visit.

As you leave, you'll check out with the front office. Brandi and Christi will schedule your next visit, give you information on where to get fitted for stockings if you were given a prescription, and will schedule any upcoming diagnostic testing that Dr. Tahara may have ordered.

We hope that this has given you a better idea of what to expect when you visit us, and we're looking forward to meeting you!