Venous Leg Swelling

Leg swelling is a common manifestation of CVD, often involving deep veins. Leg swelling is estimated to be present in 9-10% of Western populations. Leg swelling that occurs in women after menopause (post-menopausal leg swelling) is a recognized clinical entity. Fluid pills are commonly prescribed and are often ineffective. Leg swelling particularly if combined with leg pain can be disabling. In elderly patients, disabling leg swelling may inhibit mobility and self care prompting considerations of nursing home placement. Venous stent placement through catheters (an outpatient procedure) may be effective in reducing or eliminating venous leg swelling.