

# UC Irvine

## UC Irvine Previously Published Works

### Title

Clinical presentation and outcomes after endovascular management in a mixed pediatric and adult Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome population

### Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/86r6n6v6>

### Journal

Journal of Vascular Surgery Venous and Lymphatic Disorders, 9(6)

### ISSN

2213-333X

### Authors

Nelson, Kari J  
Bennett, Rebecca  
Lam, Alexander  
et al.

### Publication Date

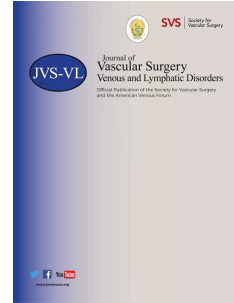
2021-11-01

### DOI

10.1016/j.jvsv.2021.03.005

Peer reviewed

# Journal Pre-proof



Clinical presentation and outcomes following endovascular management in a mixed pediatric and adult Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome population

Kari J. Nelson, MD, Rebecca Bennett, MD, Alexander Lam, MD, Hanna Javan, MD, Laura Findeiss, MD, Kristen M. Kelly, MD, J. Stuart Nelson, MD, PhD, Nadine Abi-Jaoudeh, MD

PII: S2213-333X(21)00168-2

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvsv.2021.03.005>

Reference: JVSV 1208

To appear in: *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*

Received Date: 22 October 2020

Accepted Date: 7 March 2021

Please cite this article as: K.J. Nelson, R. Bennett, A. Lam, H. Javan, L. Findeiss, K.M. Kelly, J.S. Nelson, N. Abi-Jaoudeh, Clinical presentation and outcomes following endovascular management in a mixed pediatric and adult Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome population, *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders* (2021), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvsv.2021.03.005>.

This is a PDF file of an article that has undergone enhancements after acceptance, such as the addition of a cover page and metadata, and formatting for readability, but it is not yet the definitive version of record. This version will undergo additional copyediting, typesetting and review before it is published in its final form, but we are providing this version to give early visibility of the article. Please note that, during the production process, errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

Copyright © 2021 Published by Elsevier Inc. on behalf of the Society for Vascular Surgery.

1 Clinical presentation and outcomes following endovascular management in a mixed pediatric  
2 and adult Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome population

3

4 Kari J. Nelson, MD<sup>1</sup>, Rebecca Bennett, MD<sup>2</sup>, Alexander Lam, MD<sup>3</sup>, Hanna Javan, MD<sup>2</sup>, Laura  
5 Findeiss, MD<sup>4</sup>, Kristen M. Kelly, MD<sup>5</sup>, J. Stuart Nelson, MD, PhD<sup>6</sup>, Nadine Abi-Jaoudeh, MD<sup>2</sup>

6

7

8 <sup>1</sup> MemorialCare-South Coast Radiology, Laguna Hills, CA, <sup>2</sup>Department of Radiological  
9 Sciences, University of California, Irvine Medical Center, Orange, CA, <sup>3</sup>Department of  
10 Radiology and Biomedical Imaging, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA,  
11 <sup>4</sup>Departments of Radiology and Surgery, Grady Health System—Emory University, Atlanta, GA,  
12 <sup>5</sup>Department of Dermatology, University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA, <sup>6</sup>Departments of  
13 Surgery and Biomedical Engineering, University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

14

15 Corresponding author:

16 Kari J. Nelson, MD, FSIR (former Clinical Professor of Radiological Sciences, UC Irvine)

17 Interventional Radiology

18 MemorialCare-South Coast Radiology

19 PO Box 3517, Laguna Hills, CA 92654

20 [karijohannanelson@hotmail.com](mailto:karijohannanelson@hotmail.com) (permanent email address)

21 cell: 434-242-9594

22 work: 714-378-7356

23

1 Post-publication corresponding author:

2 As above, Kari J. Nelson, MD

3 Back-up corresponding author: Rebecca Bennett, MD, rebeccabennett.ucla@gmail.com

4

5 Presentation information: A subset of this content was presented virtually (due to COVID-19) for

6 the Society of Interventional Radiology Annual Scientific Meeting 2020, which was originally

7 scheduled for March 2020 in Seattle, WA. Abstract No. 181: Technical and clinical success of

8 endovenous ablation and sclerotherapy in Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome.

9

10

### 11 **Article Highlights**

12 **Type of Research:** Single center, retrospective cohort

13 study

14 **Key Findings:** Fifteen of 20 KTS patients underwent endovascular intervention for symptoms

15 related to venous pathology of KTS refractory to compression therapy. Technical success was

16 97.8%, clinical success was 100%, and complication rate was 6.7% (1 patient, Grade II Clavien-

17 Dindo).

18 **Take home message:** Endovascular intervention is safe and effective for KTS patients who fail

19 conservative management.

20

### 21 **Table of Contents Summary**

1 In this retrospective study of 20 KTS patients, endovascular intervention for refractory  
2 symptoms related to venous pathology of KTS had 97.8% technical success, 100% clinical  
3 success, and 6.7% complication rate. Endovascular intervention is safe and effective for KTS  
4 patients who fail conservative management.

5

## 6 **Abstract**

7 **Objective:** To retrospectively study the clinical presentations and outcomes of endovascular  
8 management in a mixed pediatric and adult Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome (KTS) population at a  
9 single academic medical center.

10 **Methods:** Retrospective study of patients with KTS and referred for endovascular intervention  
11 following evaluation and diagnosis by a multidisciplinary team at a single academic medical  
12 center over a 10-year period was performed. Patient demographics, areas affected, presenting  
13 symptoms, prior treatments, imaging modalities, endovascular treatment types, number of  
14 treatments, and complications were assessed. Technical and clinical success percentages were  
15 calculated.

16 **Results:** Twenty-six patients with suspected KTS were evaluated. Twenty patients, ages 2-75  
17 years, were diagnosed with KTS based upon ISSVA criteria and referred for endovascular  
18 management. Left lower extremity was most affected. Presenting symptoms were pain (80%),  
19 edema (70%), bleeding (10%), numbness (25%), claudication (25%). Sixteen patients (80%)  
20 received treatment for KTS before presenting to our institution. MRI and US were the most  
21 common imaging modalities. Fifteen patients underwent 46 endovascular treatments during the  
22 study period. Treatment included 5 endovenous ablations only, 4 US-guided sclerotherapies with

1 endovenous ablation, 5 US-guided sclerotherapies only, and 32 catheter-directed venograms with  
2 additional interventions. Localized intravascular coagulopathy (LIC) was the only procedure-  
3 related complication and occurred in 1 patient following 3 treatments. Technical success was  
4 97.8%. Clinical success was 100%.

5 Conclusion: Endovascular intervention is safe and effective for KTS patients who fail  
6 conservative management. Pain and edema are the most common presenting symptoms in KTS  
7 patients and may be related to pathology of anomalous and orthotopic superficial veins or deep  
8 veins. Venous claudication may be present in KTS despite patency of the deep venous system.  
9 MRI and duplex US are frequently used modalities for venous assessment. Complications of  
10 endovascular treatment are rare but include LIC.

11  
12 Keywords: Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome, endovascular, anomalous vein, localized intravascular  
13 coagulopathy, venous claudication

14  
15  
16  
17 Conflict of Interest Statement: The authors have no relevant disclosures.

18  
19 All disclosures:

20  
21 Dr. Kelly reports other support from Allergan, Solta, Syneron/Candela, Thermi RF, Vivosight,  
22 R2 Derm, Syneron-Candela, Allergan, Sciton, personal fees from Shanghai Fudan-Zhangjiang

1 Bio-pharmaceuticals, and grants from Allergan, grants from NIH, grants from Sturge Weber  
2 Foundation, all outside the submitted work.

3

4 Dr. Abi-Jaoudeh reports other support from Philips Medical Systems, Teclison, Sillajen, Sirtex,  
5 Genentech, Bruin Biosciences, and grants from Guerbet, all outside the submitted work.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15 Introduction:

16 Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome (KTS) is a rare, complex, congenital vascular anomaly defined by  
17 the International Society for the Study of Vascular Anomalies (ISSVA) as the combination of a  
18 capillary vascular malformation (port wine stain birthmark), venous malformation (VM), and  
19 limb overgrowth, with or without lymphatic malformation (LM) <sup>1</sup>. In the last decade, an  
20 association with PIK3CA somatic gene mutation has been identified, although this is not a  
21 criterium for KTS diagnosis nor is it universally present in KTS patients <sup>2,3,4</sup>. Although up to  
22 50% of people with KTS have no clinically significant issues or debilitation, the remainder of  
23 patients are significantly impacted by their clinical condition, often requiring more than

1 conservative management with compression <sup>5</sup>. In patients with patent deep venous systems and  
2 symptoms secondary to vascular congestion in anomalous or diseased orthotopic venous  
3 structures, vascular intervention may be considered. Over the last decades, vascular intervention  
4 in KTS has shifted from open surgery to an endovascular approach <sup>5,6,7,8,9,10,11</sup>. The literature  
5 pertaining to endovascular management of KTS is limited and largely comprised of case reports.  
6 The largest KTS studies to date involve surgical management or a combination of surgical and  
7 endovascular management <sup>6,8</sup>. The purpose of this study is to review the clinical presentations  
8 and outcomes for patients undergoing endovascular management in a mixed pediatric and adult  
9 KTS population at a single academic medical center.

#### 10 Methods:

11 Following IRB approval, including IRB approved waiver of patient consent, patients with  
12 congenital anomalies and presumed diagnosis of KTS referred for multidisciplinary evaluation at  
13 a single academic medical center from 2009-2019 were retrospectively identified. All patients  
14 undergoing evaluation had cross-sectional imaging. Outside cross-sectional imaging of the  
15 affected area, when available, was reviewed. Patients without cross-sectional imaging or  
16 requiring additional imaging underwent Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) with time-resolved  
17 Magnetic Resonance Arteriography (MRA) and Magnetic Resonance Venography (MRV).  
18 Anesthesia support for MRI was available for patients of all ages, on an as needed basis. Formal  
19 duplex ultrasound was obtained, as needed, for diagnosis and/or clarification of deep venous  
20 patency and was performed in compliance with Intersociety Accreditation Committee (IAC)  
21 standards for peripheral venous testing <sup>12</sup>. Inclusion criteria included diagnosis of KTS based  
22 upon ISSVA criteria after multi-disciplinary evaluation, symptoms not relieved by conservative  
23 management with compression, venous pathology identifiable by imaging or physical exam,



1 patent deep veins and performance of endovenous intervention at our institution. Exclusion  
2 criteria included failure to meet ISSVA criteria for KTS, absence of a deep venous system in the  
3 affected anatomic area, resolution of symptoms with conservative measures, absence of  
4 superficial or deep venous pathology suitable for intervention and no endovenous intervention at  
5 our institution. Patient age was documented as age at the time of initial referral for endovascular  
6 intervention at a single academic medical center. Patient age was assessed by defined categories:  
7 infant 0-1y, child 2-12y, adolescent 13-18y, and adult >18y. Mean patient age was calculated.  
8 Sex was documented in binary fashion, male or female. Affected area was defined as the  
9 extremity involved with or without adjacent truncal extension. Presenting symptoms were  
10 assessed as reported by the patient and/or family, and included pain, subjective worsening of  
11 edema, recurrent bleeding, numbness/tingling, and claudication defined as debilitating muscle  
12 cramping with activity that was not attributable to underlying deep venous pathology or to  
13 underlying arterial disease. Prior treatments were documented as reported by the patient, family,  
14 or outside medical records.

15 Technical success was defined as the successful completion of the intended intervention, with  
16 intent of occlusion of vessels undergoing embolization, endovenous ablation or sclerotherapy.  
17 Clinical success was defined as the complete or partial resolution of pre-procedure symptoms  
18 following endovascular treatment, assessed at the initial post-procedure clinic follow-up.

19 Complete response was defined as resolution of presenting symptoms. Partial response and no  
20 response were defined as improvement versus no change, respectively, in the frequency, severity  
21 and degree of debilitation of presenting symptoms. Complications related to treatment were  
22 assessed using Clavien-Dindo classification, which has been validated across surgical

1 subspecialties<sup>13</sup>. A standard complication classification has not been defined for KTS. Treatment  
2 response was assessed at the initial post-procedure clinic follow-up.

### 3 Technique

4 Procedures for patients 18 years of age or younger were performed under general anesthesia.  
5 Procedures for patients over the age of 18 years were performed under moderate sedation or  
6 general anesthesia depending upon anticipated procedure length, expected procedure-related  
7 pain, and patient comorbidities. Complete blood count (CBC), activated partial thromboplastin  
8 time (aPTT) and prothrombin time (PT)/international normalized ratio (INR), and basic  
9 chemistry panel were obtained prior to all procedures. Fibrinogen and D-dimer were obtained in  
10 patients with extensive VM, defined as those with VM with intramuscular or bony involvement  
11 or involving greater than 25% of the surface area of the affected region. Standard sterile  
12 technique was utilized. Pre-procedural antibiotics were utilized for patients undergoing  
13 sclerotherapy, coil embolization and stent placement. Technical details for venous access,  
14 venography, sclerotherapy, venoplasty, stent placement, coil embolization, and endovenous  
15 ablation are provided in Appendix 1. Intra-procedural nerve monitoring was performed during  
16 endovenous radiofrequency and laser ablation of persistent sciatic and lateral marginal veins. At  
17 the conclusion of each procedure, immediately following placement of sterile dressings, the  
18 patient's pre-fitted compression garment was applied. Early ambulation or mobilization occurred  
19 in the recovery area as soon as deemed safe by the recovery nurse. With the exception of  
20 patients who were from out of town, who were kept in the hospital for overnight observation,  
21 patients were discharged on the day of intervention following anesthesia or sedation recovery  
22 and ambulation.

1 Phone follow-up was performed 2-5 days post-procedure. Initial post-procedure clinic follow-up  
2 was scheduled at 8 weeks. Subsequent clinic follow-up was generally scheduled every 6-12  
3 months. Clinic follow-up for patients with extensive venous malformations requiring staged  
4 treatment were scheduled every 2-3 months. Patients were also seen in clinic, as needed, for new,  
5 recurrent, or worsening symptoms. US with Doppler was performed by the interventional  
6 radiologist during clinic visits for new, recurrent, or worsening symptoms, and for treatment  
7 planning during pre-procedure visits. Post-procedure duplex US to assess for deep venous  
8 thrombosis (DVT) was performed at one week. Follow-up MRI was not routinely performed  
9 following treatment, but was obtained for new, recurrent, or worsening symptoms which were  
10 not clarified by duplex US.

#### 11 Statistics

12 Descriptive statistics were performed for anatomic areas affected by KTS and presenting  
13 symptoms, and percentage of patients previously treated for KTS at outside institutions was  
14 calculated. Pre-treatment non-invasive imaging modalities were tallied. All types of MRI,  
15 including time-resolved MRA and MRV, were included as MRI. Total number of procedures  
16 was tallied, and mean treatment number per patient was calculated. Endovascular treatments  
17 were categorized by type and site, and the number of each endovascular treatment tallied.  
18 Median clinical follow-up after initial procedure and last procedure were calculated. Clinical and  
19 technical success percentages were calculated. Kaplan-Meier estimation for re-intervention free  
20 survival was performed using Stata version 16 (StataCorp, College Station, TX).

#### 21 Results:

1 From 2009-2019, 26 patients with congenital anomalies were referred to a single academic  
2 medical center with presumed diagnosis of KTS. After multidisciplinary review, 20 patients were  
3 confirmed to have a diagnosis of KTS based upon ISSVA criteria. Patients not meeting ISSVA  
4 criteria for KTS included 4 diagnosed with isolated capillary vascular malformation and 2  
5 patients diagnosed with Parkes Weber syndrome based upon identification of underlying  
6 arteriovenous malformation on MRI with time-resolved MRA.

7 The 20 patients with confirmed diagnosis of KTS included 3 males (15%) and 17 females (85%).  
8 Average patient age at presentation was 23.1 years, (range 2-75 years) including 1 infant, 5  
9 children, 2 adolescents and 12 adults. Areas primarily affected by KTS included left lower  
10 extremity in 8, left lower extremity and pelvis in 5, right lower extremity in 4, right lower  
11 extremity and pelvis in 2, and left upper extremity in 1 patient. Two patients had accompanying  
12 microcystic lymphatic malformations (MCLM) of the affected areas. Presenting symptoms  
13 included pain in 16 (80%), subjective worsening of edema in 14 (70%), recurrent bleeding in 2  
14 (10%), numbness/tingling in 5 (25%), and claudication in 5 patients (25%) (Table I). Of the 2  
15 KTS patients with accompanying microcystic lymphatic malformations, one had primary  
16 complaint of bleeding from scrotal varicosities and from the urethra, and the other presented with  
17 subjective worsening of edema.

18 Sixteen of the 20 patients (80%) with KTS diagnosis had been previously treated for KTS before  
19 presenting to our institution. Prior treatments included compression only in 1 patient, pulsed-dye  
20 laser of capillary vascular malformation in 10, surgical debulking with stab phlebectomy in 2,  
21 surgical limb lengthening in 1, deep venous thrombectomy of the affected limb in 1, and  
22 sclerotherapy with pulsed-dye laser in 1. Prior treatments of three patients included treatment of  
23 anomalous veins or varicose veins, two with stab phlebectomy at the time of surgical debulking

1 and one with sclerotherapy. All three patients had clinical success without recurrence of the  
2 treated veins. All previously treated patients presented to our institution with new, progressive or  
3 recurrent symptoms. Non-invasive imaging modalities utilized prior to evaluation and/or prior to  
4 treatment included MRI in 18, CT in 2, and formal duplex US performed by the vascular lab in 3  
5 patients. Fifteen patients underwent additional pre-treatment bedside planning duplex US in  
6 clinic for assessment of venous insufficiency, interrogation of veins in areas of symptomatology  
7 and interrogation of MRI or CT abnormalities to assist treatment planning.

8 Five of 20 patients with confirmed KTS diagnosis were excluded from the study. Two patients  
9 had resolution of presenting symptoms after obtaining custom compression garments. One  
10 patient who had previously been treated at an outside institution for incompetent superficial  
11 veins and presented with ongoing venous claudication underwent catheter venography which  
12 failed to demonstrate a deep venous stenosis reported on outside MRI, so intervention was not  
13 performed. One patient underwent treatment at another institution. One patient with  
14 accompanying MCLM and subjective worsening of edema was lost to follow-up after initial  
15 evaluation. Fifteen patients met inclusion criteria and underwent 46 endovascular treatments  
16 (mean 3.1, median 2 treatments per patient, range 1-15) over a ten-year period (Figure 1). Seven  
17 patients underwent multiple procedures. Four underwent staged treatments for extensive venous  
18 malformations and were reassessed after each procedure. Two of the four staged patients had  
19 new or recurrent symptoms after the initial staged treatments which prompted additional  
20 treatment. Three patients underwent additional treatment for new varicosities or symptoms  
21 arising after the initial treatment and follow-up. Additional treatments were for new or  
22 progressive pathology in previously untreated veins, not involving previously treated venous  
23 structures.

1 Treatment details are presented in Table II. Treatments included 5 endovenous ablations only  
2 (radiofrequency or laser), 4 US-guided sclerotherapies with endovenous ablation, 5 US-guided  
3 sclerotherapies only, and 32 catheter-directed venograms with additional interventions, including  
4 sclerotherapy, coil embolization, endovenous ablation, venoplasty, and stent placement. Ten  
5 lateral marginal veins and 3 persistent sciatic veins were treated. Lateral marginal veins were  
6 treated with sclerotherapy alone in 8 patients, sclerotherapy with coil embolization in one  
7 patient, and sclerotherapy with ablation in another. Persistent sciatic veins were treated with  
8 sclerotherapy in one patient, sclerotherapy with coil embolization in one patient and endovenous  
9 ablation with nerve monitoring in another. Mean age at treatment of symptomatic anomalous  
10 veins was 10.0 years (6-17 years ) and 17.7 years (2-33 years) for persistent sciatic and lateral  
11 marginal veins, respectively. Mean age at treatment of symptomatic orthotopic veins was 37.1  
12 years (26-75 years), 30.0 years (29-31 years), and 20.8 years (4-33 years) for great saphenous,  
13 small saphenous and anterior accessory saphenous veins, respectively. Symptoms related  
14 exclusively to orthotopic veins were only present in adult patients. One pediatric patient  
15 presented with symptoms related to insufficiency of an orthotopic vein in addition to an  
16 anomalous vein. One patient in our study was noted to have ipsilateral common iliac vein  
17 compression on imaging, later confirmed with catheter venography and intravascular ultrasound,  
18 and ultimately treated with angioplasty and stent placement. Following this intervention, the  
19 patient proceeded to treatment of incompetent anterior accessory saphenous and lateral marginal  
20 veins and associated varicosities with endovenous ablation and foam sclerotherapy. The patient  
21 experienced partial improvement of her venous hypertension symptoms after iliac stent  
22 placement, and complete resolution of her symptoms was documented following treatment of the  
23 superficial veins on the affected extremity. In one patient for whom endovenous laser ablation of

1 the lateral marginal vein was intended, adequate tumescent anesthesia could not be obtained;  
2 therefore, catheter directed foam sclerotherapy was instead performed. The intended endovenous  
3 intervention was successfully performed in all other procedures. Technical success was 97.8%.  
4 Median follow-up was 2.5 years (range 2 months- 8 years) from first treatment, and median  
5 follow-up was 1 year (range 2 months- 4 years) from last treatment. There were no major  
6 complications. There were no incidences of post-treatment deep vein thrombosis (DVT),  
7 endovenous heat-induced thrombosis (EHIT), skin burn, ulceration, motor nerve injury, or non-  
8 target embolization. There were 3 Clavien-Dindo grade II complications, all of which were  
9 localized intravascular coagulopathy (LIC) which occurred following 3 treatments in 1 patient.  
10 One patient with extensive muscular venous channels affecting her left lower extremity and  
11 pelvis developed LIC at age 14 years after undergoing multiple prior treatments uncomplicated  
12 by LIC. In her case, D-dimer was elevated beyond the upper limits of detection, and she was  
13 started on therapeutic low molecular weight heparin (LMWH). This patient's follow-up and  
14 ongoing LIC management were coordinated with hematology colleagues. Following the initial  
15 LIC event, the patient was managed with prophylactic LMWH in the post-operative period  
16 alone, but experienced LIC despite prophylactic LMWH and experienced sporadic LIC unrelated  
17 to treatments. Subsequently, ongoing prophylactic dose LMWH was utilized for prevention of  
18 sporadic LIC events unrelated to treatment, and therapeutic dose LMWH was utilized in the peri-  
19 procedural period for the remainder of her treatment course. The patient's LIC was controlled  
20 without progression to disseminated intravascular coagulopathy (DIC).

21 Clinical success was 100% (Table 1). There was complete or partial resolution of pain in 14 of  
22 14 treated patients: complete resolution in 12 (85.7%), partial resolution in 2 (14.2%). Two of  
23 the patients who initially presented with pain were not treated. There was complete or partial

1 improvement in swelling/edema in 13 of 13 patients: complete resolution in 11 (84.6%), partial  
2 resolution in 2 (15.4%). One patient with swelling was not treated. There was resolved or  
3 decreased bleeding in 2 of 2 patients: 1 resolved (50%), 1 decreased (50%). There was  
4 resolution or improvement of numbness/tingling in 5 of 5 patients: 2 resolved (40%), 3 improved  
5 (60%). There was complete resolution of venous claudication in 4 of 4 patients (100%). One  
6 patient with venous claudication was not treated.

7

8 Discussion:

9 Compression therapy is considered the cornerstone of management of KTS<sup>5,6,7,9,10,11</sup>. Many  
10 KTS patients require additional treatment or intervention. Medical management of KTS is  
11 increasing. Sirolimus (Rapamycin) was introduced in 2011 as the first pharmacologic treatment  
12 for complicated vascular anomalies<sup>3</sup>. KTS is part of the PIK3CA-related overgrowth spectrum  
13 (PROS), and PIK3CA somatic mutations are present in the majority of KTS patients<sup>3</sup>. PIK3CA  
14 mutation results in physiologically inappropriate activation of the PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathway  
15 resulting in dysregulated cellular growth and malformed vascular channels<sup>2,3,4,14</sup>. The use of  
16 Sirolimus, an mTOR inhibitor and immunosuppressant, has demonstrated improvement in  
17 volume of affected areas in some patients with variable improvement in quality of life. Adverse  
18 events including blood/bone marrow toxicity have occurred in a significant percentage of  
19 patients even at low dose<sup>14,15</sup>. Study of Sirolimus in KTS is ongoing. As a therapy, Sirolimus is  
20 a suppressive, not curative, treatment and may require indefinite use<sup>14,15</sup>. For these reasons, use  
21 of Sirolimus in KTS is considered on a case-by-case basis.



1 Open surgery was traditionally the therapeutic option for venous complications of KTS  
2 refractory to conservative management but has fallen out of favor due to wound complications  
3 and persistent bleeding <sup>7</sup>. Endovascular interventions for venous complications of KTS have  
4 been explored and adopted, although data is limited. This study demonstrates the safety and  
5 efficacy of a variety of adjunctive, minimally invasive endovascular therapies for symptomatic  
6 venous pathology in KTS, including thermal and chemical ablation, coil embolization,  
7 venoplasty and stenting.

8 Pain and edema were common presenting complaints at 80% and 70%, respectively, and are the  
9 most frequently reported symptoms of KTS in the literature <sup>5,6,8,9</sup>. Insufficient anomalous and  
10 orthotopic veins may be symptomatic in KTS. Symptomatic anomalous veins were treated in the  
11 majority of patients in this study. Symptomatic orthotopic veins presented both with and without  
12 accompanying symptomatic anomalous veins and were far more frequent in adult patients. This  
13 finding highlights the ongoing effects of venous hypertension in KTS patients which may lead to  
14 development and need for treatment of orthotopic veins not typically associated with KTS.

15 Claudication was a presenting symptom in 25% of patients. All patients with claudication were  
16 pre-menopausal adult women with extensive capillary vascular malformations of the affected  
17 limb. All had widely patent deep venous systems and absence of underlying arterial disease. All  
18 patients reported complete resolution of claudication following endovascular intervention.

19 Venous claudication is generally attributed to vascular inflow-outflow mismatch due to  
20 underlying venous outflow restriction <sup>16</sup>. In this study, venous claudication occurred in patients  
21 with patent deep veins, indicating that venous claudication in KTS is related to a different  
22 vascular inflow-outflow mismatch. In addition to the expected increase in inflow related to  
23 exercise, increased inflow also occurs in the presence of extensive capillary vascular

1 malformations <sup>6</sup>, which were present in all claudication patients in this study. When this  
2 increased inflow is coupled with the presence of venous insufficiency, which impairs outflow,  
3 debilitating venous hypertension with claudication occurs despite the presence of patent deep  
4 veins.

5 Multiple imaging modalities are capable of anatomically assessing the deep and superficial  
6 venous systems, including CT, catheter-directed venography, MRI, and duplex US. As with  
7 surgery, ensuring the presence of an intact and patent deep venous system is mandatory before  
8 considering endovascular treatment of varicosities and VM. MRI and duplex US are the  
9 preferred methods for assessing the patency and anatomy of the deep and superficial venous  
10 systems <sup>4,17</sup> both in this series and previous published literature due to lack of ionizing radiation.  
11 Though widely available, duplex US is operator dependent and therefore, should be performed  
12 by experienced vascular technologists. The anatomic complexity of KTS can prove challenging.  
13 For this reason, the study institution favors initial KTS evaluation with MRI (including time-  
14 resolved MRA and MRV) to assist diagnosis, to characterize the extent of disease, and to  
15 demonstrate presence and patency of deep veins. Formal Duplex US is obtained, as needed, for  
16 clarification of deep venous patency. Bedside duplex US is performed in clinic after careful  
17 history, physical exam, and review of the patient's MRI to assess extent of venous insufficiency,  
18 to interrogate veins in areas of symptomatology and to interrogate other MRI abnormalities to  
19 assist treatment planning. Diversion venography has a demonstrated role in characterization of  
20 suspected hypoplastic or atretic deep veins and should be considered, as needed <sup>18</sup>. Failure to  
21 accurately identify occluded or absent deep venous structures in patients undergoing intervention  
22 may result in limb loss.

1 Anatomic deep venous compression may exacerbate KTS. Popliteal vein entrapment requiring  
2 release in KTS has been described <sup>10</sup>. Iliac vein compression may co-exist with KTS, as present  
3 in one patient in this study, and may be assessed on cross-sectional imaging <sup>11</sup>. Deep venous  
4 evaluation in patients with KTS must include assessment for treatable deep venous pathology, as  
5 deep and superficial venous interventions are complimentary in managing symptoms. As in the  
6 non-KTS venous hypertension population, lesions of deep venous outflow should be addressed  
7 prior to treatment of superficial venous disease.

8 Multiple endovascular therapies for superficial veins are available for patients with KTS and  
9 commonly involve sclerotherapy, endovenous ablation, and embolization <sup>2,7,8,9,10,11,19</sup>. These  
10 interventions may be employed for both insufficient orthotopic veins and anomalous veins  
11 <sup>7,9,19,20</sup>. In this study, incompetent and symptomatic superficial veins were initially addressed  
12 with thermal endovenous ablation (RFA or laser) if anatomically feasible; however, microfoam  
13 sclerotherapy and cyanoacrylate adhesive may also be used. Excessively tortuous superficial  
14 veins and symptomatic varicosities were most frequently treated with US-guided foam  
15 sclerotherapy. While stab phlebectomy of varicosities underlying capillary vascular  
16 malformations may be safely performed with proper technique <sup>6</sup>, some institutions have moved  
17 towards catheter-mediated techniques and away from open surgery for KTS as with other venous  
18 insufficiency syndromes. In KTS patients with extensive anatomic variation and complex  
19 anatomy, venography is used in addition to US to guide superficial venous treatment.

20 Intervention for persistent sciatic vein and lateral marginal vein warrants special attention, as  
21 these veins may exist in proximity to the sciatic nerve and peroneal nerve, which are motor  
22 nerves. Intra-procedural nerve monitoring may be considered with endovenous ablation to avoid  
23 devastating nerve injury. Even with nerve monitoring, thermal endovenous ablation should only

1 be considered when the vein and nerve are not intimately associated or can be separated with  
2 tumescent anesthesia. Alternatively, non-thermal, chemical ablation of anomalous veins may be  
3 performed, with or without coil embolization. Both endovenous ablation with nerve monitoring  
4 and chemical ablation were used to treat the lateral marginal vein and persistent sciatic vein in  
5 this study, without complication.

6 The abnormal blood flow associated with VM in KTS, including superficial phlebectasia and  
7 multi-compartment venous malformation, may lead to thrombophlebitis and DVT. Venous  
8 thromboembolism risk increases in the peri-procedural period. Graduated compression and early  
9 ambulation decrease venous stagnation. Anticoagulation is utilized when indicated by patient  
10 history or laboratory testing. Despite precautions, activation of the coagulation cascade may  
11 result in DVT or LIC, requiring heightened awareness. The development of LIC has been  
12 associated with VM surface area, intramuscular involvement, bony involvement, truncal location  
13 and VM progression during puberty<sup>21,22</sup>. The formation of focal thrombus seen with LIC usually  
14 manifests as significant focal pain. Laboratory analysis demonstrates elevated D-dimer<sup>22,23</sup>. In  
15 severe instance, LIC can be characterized by low fibrinogen in addition to elevated D-dimer  
16 conveying a high risk of hemorrhage and possible progression to DIC<sup>23</sup>. Aspirin and non-  
17 steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs may alleviate pain but are not useful in treating the underlying  
18 cause, as it is not a platelet driven process<sup>22,23</sup>. LIC is traditionally treated with LMWH which  
19 improves pain associated with thrombosis and prevents progression to DIC. The successful use  
20 of oral anti-Xa agents for treatment of LIC has been published in case reports<sup>22,24</sup>. The potential  
21 for LIC to progress to DIC or to precipitate life-threatening thrombo-embolic complications  
22 underscores the need for pre-operative CBC, PT/INR, aPTT, D-dimer, and fibrinogen levels in  
23 high-risk patients. The occurrence of LIC in this study, in a KTS patient with extensive VM,

1 confirms the existing literature<sup>22</sup>. Clinician awareness is essential, and periprocedural  
2 prophylaxis and treatment should be initiated when indicated.

3 There are limitations to this study, including single-center, retrospective design, with patient  
4 reported metrics. Given the complexity and variability of KTS anatomy and pathology,  
5 endovascular treatment plan varied by patient and by operator. Finally, as KTS is a rare disease,  
6 the study size is small.

7 Conclusion:

8 KTS is a rare, complex, congenital vascular anomaly with variable clinical presentation.

9 Consistent with this study, pain and edema are the most commonly reported symptoms.

10 Symptoms may be related to pathology of anomalous and orthotopic superficial veins or deep  
11 veins. KTS patients with patent deep venous systems may present with venous claudication due  
12 to increased vascular inflow from extensive capillary vascular malformations and impaired  
13 outflow related to superficial venous insufficiency. MRI and duplex US evaluation are frequently  
14 used modalities to assess deep venous patency and superficial venous anatomy. Compression  
15 remains central to management of KTS. Study of Sirolimus in KTS is ongoing. Endovascular  
16 intervention is safe and effective for KTS patients who fail conservative management. Clinical  
17 success, with complete or partial response to treatment, is expected following endovascular  
18 intervention for symptoms related to venous hypertension in KTS. Complications are rare but  
19 include localized intravascular coagulopathy.

20

21 References

22 1. [Issva.org/UserFiles/file/ISSVA-Classification-2018.pdf](https://www.issva.org/UserFiles/file/ISSVA-Classification-2018.pdf)

- 1 2. John PR. Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome. *Tech Vasc Int Radiol* 2019;22(4):100634.
- 2 3. Le Cras TD, Boscolo E. Cellular and molecular mechanisms of PIK3CA related vascular  
3 anomalies. *Vasc Biol* 2019;28(1):H33-40.
- 4 4. Bertino F, Braithwaite KA, Hawkins CM, Gill AE, Briones MA, Swerdlin R, et al.  
5 Congenital limb overgrowth syndromes associated with vascular anomalies. *Radiographics*  
6 2019;39:491-515.
- 7 5. Delis KT, Gloviczki P, Wennberg PW, Rooke TW, Driscoll DJ. Hemodynamic impairment,  
8 venous segmental disease, and clinical severity scoring in limbs with Klippel-Trenaunay  
9 syndrome. *J Vasc Surg* 2007;45(3):561-567.
- 10 6. Noel A, Gloviczki P, Cherry KJ, Rooke TW, Stanson AW, Driscoll DJ. Surgical treatment of  
11 venous malformations of Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome. *J Vasc Surg* 2000;32(5):840-847.
- 12 7. Wang SK, Drucker NA, Gupta AK, Marshalleck FE, Dalsing MC. Diagnosis and  
13 management of the venous malformations of Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome. *J Vasc Surg*  
14 *Venous Lymphat Disord* 2017;5(4):587-595.
- 15 8. Sreekar H, Dawre S, Petkar KS, Shetty RB, Lamba S, Naik S, Gupta AK. Diverse  
16 manifestations and management options in Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome: a single centre 10-  
17 year experience. *J Plast Surg Hand Surg* 2013;47:303-307.
- 18 9. Sermsathanasawadi N, Hongku K, Wongwanit C, Ruangsetakit C, Chinsakchai K,  
19 Mutirangura P. Endovenous radiofrequency thermal ablation and ultrasound-guided foam  
20 sclerotherapy in treatment of Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome. *Ann Vasc Dis* 2014;7(1):52-55.
- 21 10. Nassiri N, Crystal D, Huntress LA, Murphy S. Transcatheter embolization of persistent  
22 embryonic veins in venous malformation syndromes. *J Vasc Surg Venous Lymphat Disord*  
23 2017;5(5):749-755.

- 1 11. Fereydooni A, Nassiri N. Evaluation and management of the lateral marginal vein in Klippel-  
2 Trenaunay and other PIK3CA-related overgrowth syndromes. *J Vasc Surg Venous Lymphat*  
3 *Disord* 2020;8:482-493.
- 4 12. <https://www.intersocietal.org/vascular/standards/IACVascularTestingStandards2020.pdf>
- 5 13. Khalilzadeh O, Baerlocher MO, Shyn PB, Morris CS, Cohen AM, et al. Proposal of a new  
6 adverse event classification by the Society of Interventional Radiology Standards of Practice  
7 Committee. *J Vasc Interv Radiol* 2017;28:1432-1437.
- 8 14. Parker VER, Keppler-Noreuil KM, Faivre L, Luu M, Oden NL, De Silva L, et al. Safety and  
9 efficacy of low-dose Sirolimus in the PIK3CA-related overgrowth spectrum. *Genet Med*  
10 2019;21(5):1189-1198.
- 11 15. Adams DM, Trenor CC, Hammill AM, Vinks AA, Patel MN, Chaudry G, et al. Efficacy and  
12 safety of Sirolimus in the treatment of complicated vascular anomalies. *Pediatrics*  
13 2016;137(2):e20153257.
- 14 16. Killewich LA, Martin R, Cramer M, Beach KW, Strandness DE. Pathophysiology of venous  
15 claudication. *J Vasc Surg* 1984;1(4):507-511.
- 16 17. Johnson CM, Navarro OM. Clinical and sonographic features of pediatric soft-tissue vascular  
17 anomalies part 2: vascular malformations. *Pediatr Radiol* 2017;47:1196-1208.
- 18 18. Alomari AI. Diversion venography—a modified technique in Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome:  
19 initial experience. *J Vasc Interv Radiol* 2010;21:685-689.
- 20 19. Bittles M, Jodeh DS, Mayer JLR, Gallant M, Rottgers SA. Laser ablation of embryonic veins  
21 in children. *Pediatr Int* 2019;61:358-363.
- 22 20. Patel PA, Barnacle AM, Stuart S, Amaral JG, John PR. Endovenous laser ablation therapy in  
23 children: applications and outcomes. *Pediatr Radiol* 2017;47:1353-1363.

- 1 21. Hung JWS, Leung MWY, Liu CSW, Fung DHS, Poon WL, Yam FSD, Leung YCL, Chung  
2 KLY, Tang PMY, Chao NSY, Liu KKW. Venous malformation and localized intravascular  
3 coagulopathy in children. *Eur J Pediatr Surg* 2017;27:181-184.
- 4 22. Zhuo K, Russell S, Wargon O, Adams S. Localised intravascular coagulation complicating  
5 venous malformations in children: associations and therapeutic options. *J Pediatr Child*  
6 *Health* 2017;53:737-741.
- 7 23. Domp martin A, Acher A, Thibon P, Tourbach S, Hermans C, Deneys V, et al. Association of  
8 localized intravascular coagulopathy with venous malformations. *Arch Dermatol*  
9 2008;144(7):873-877.
- 10 24. Binet Q, Lambert C, Hermans C. Dabigatran etexilate in the treatment of localized  
11 intravascular coagulopathy associated with venous malformations. *Thromb Res*  
12 2018;168:114-120.

13



## Appendix 1

All venous access was performed under real-time ultrasound (US) guidance utilizing 12-5 MHz or 15-7 MHz frequency transducers (Philips, Cambridge, MA). Venous access was obtained with 21-gauge micro puncture needle (Merit Medical, Jordan, Utah), 23-gauge butterfly needle (BD, Franklin Lakes, NJ) or 25-gauge butterfly needle (BD, Franklin Lakes, NJ) based upon operator preference and vessel size. Venography was performed with 50% or greater dilution of iohexol 350 contrast material (GE Healthcare, Chicago, IL). Sclerotherapy was performed with 1% or 3% sodium tetradecyl sulfate (Mylan, Canonsburg, PA) injected directly or injected mixed with air as foam in up to a 1:3 ratio. Sclerotherapy was performed under direct ultrasound guidance or under fluoroscopic guidance following venography. Sclerosant was delivered through butterfly needle, micro puncture needle, 4 French micro puncture sheath (Merit Medical, Jordan, Utah), or via 5 French angiographic catheters (Cook Medical, Bloomington, IN). Venoplasty was performed with non-compliant balloon catheters (BD, Franklin Lakes, NJ). Self-expanding stent (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA) was used for persistent venous stenosis refractory to angioplasty. Coil embolization with 0.035" fibered detachable coils (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA) was performed for enlarged (diameter 5mm or greater) and incompetent (reflux > 0.5 seconds) draining perforator veins prior to sclerotherapy of persistent embryonic veins. Endovenous ablation was performed following tumescent anesthesia with either radiofrequency system (Medtronic, Fridley, MN) or 1,470 nm diode laser (Angiodynamics, Latham, NY) per manufacturer's guidelines.

Symptom	Age range (years)	N presenting (%)	N treated	CR (%)	PR (%)
Pain	3-77	16 (80)	14	85.7	14.2
Swelling/edema	2-77	14 (70)	13	84.6	15.4
Bleeding	1-32	2 (10)	2	50	50
Numbness/tingling	29-49	5 (25)	5	40	60
Claudication	29-45	5 (25)	4	100	--

1

## 2 **Table I: Presenting symptoms and treatment response of KTS patients**

3 Abbreviations: N presenting= number of patients with that symptom; N presenting (%)=  
4 percentage of all patients presenting with that symptom; N treated=number of patients with that  
5 symptom who underwent treatment; CR (%)= percentage of patients who demonstrated complete  
6 response of that symptom to treatment; PR (%)= percentage of patients who demonstrated partial  
7 response of that symptom to treatment.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

	Age	Treatment	Treatment Site	Vein	Anesthesia	Dose(mGy)	#sites	Sclerosant	Complications
1	7	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	Lat, VM	GA	1.59	3	4mL STS 3%	None
2	7	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	VM	GA	7.86	6	6mL STS 3%	None
3	8	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	VM	GA	5.15	3	4mL STS 3%	None
4	8	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	VM	GA	2.78	5	5mL STS 3%	None
5	9	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	VM	GA	7.63	4	4mL STS3%	None
6	7	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	PS, VM	GA	--	4	4 mL STS3%	None
7	8	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	--	3	4mL STS3%	None
8	8	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	--	3	3mL STS3%	None
9	9	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	VM	GA	--	3	5mL STS3%	None
10	10	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	--	3	5mL STS3%	None
11	11	V+sclero	LLE,	VM	GA	23.60	4	4mL	None

			pelvis					STS3%	
12	11	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	2.30	5	4mL STS3%	None
13	11	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	1.00	4	3mL STS3%	None
14	12	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	--	5	--	None
15	12	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	6.72	4	6mL STS3%	None
16	13	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	1.68	3	4mL STS3%	None
17	13	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	7.23	6	10mL STS3%	None
18	14	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	VM	GA	12.67	7	8mL STS3%	LIC
19	14	V+sclero	LLE, pelvis	VM	GA	9.96	6	5mL STS3%	LIC
20	15	V+sclero	LLE	VM	GA	2.05	4	4mL STS3%	LIC
21	17	V+sclero +abl	RLE	Lat, PS	GA	1.14	3	2mL STS3%	None
22	26	Abl	LLE	GSV	Sedation	n/a	1	n/a	None
23	26	US abl+ sclero	LLE	Perf x 2, vv	Sedation	n/a	4	--	None

24	30	V+sclero + abl	LLE	GSV, SSV, Lat	Sedation	0.35	4	1mL STS3%	None
25	29	V+PTA+ stent	Pelvis	CIV	Sedation	32.00	1	n/a	None
26	29	Abl	LLE	GSV, SSV	Sedation	n/a	2	n/a	None
27	30	V+sclero	LLE	GSV, vv	Sedation	9.6	1	1mL STS3%	None
28	30	US abl+ sclero	LLE	Lat, perf	Sedation	n/a	2	--	None
29	31	US sclero	LLE	SSV	Sedation	n/a	1	1mL STS3%	None
30	33	US abl+ sclero	LLE	AASV, Lat	Sedation	n/a	2	4mL STS3%	None
31	29	US sclero	LLE	Lat	Sedation	n/a	1	--	None
32	33	V+sclero + abl	LLE	GSV, Lat	GA	1.27	2	--	None
32	32	V+sclero	Pelvis	vv	GA	17.00	1	1mL STS3%	None
34	45	Abl	RLE	GSV	Sedation	n/a	1	n/a	None
35	46	US sclero	RLE	GSV, vv	Sedation	n/a	1	--	None

36	75	Abl	LLE	GSV	Sedation	n/a	1	n/a	None
37	1	V+sclero	LLE	VV	GA	4.0	2	0.4mL STS3%	None
38	2	US sclero	LLE	Lat	GA	n/a	4	--	None
39	3	V+sclero	LLE	VV	GA	4.26	3	0.5mL STS3%	None
40	4	V+sclero + abl	LLE	AASV, Lat	GA	0.68	3	1mL STS3%	None
41	6	V+sclero + coils	LLE	Lat, PS	GA	12.56	4	4mL STS3%	None
42	31	US abl+ sclero	RLE	GSV, AASV, vv	GA	n/a	3	--	None
43	33	Abl	LLE	GSV	Sedation	n/a	1	n/a	None
44	30	V+sclero + abl	LLE	GSV, AASV, vv	Sedation	--	2	2mL STS1%	None
45	33	US abl+ sclero	LLE	GSV, vv	Sedation	n/a	4	--	None
46	16	US sclero	RLE	Lat	Sedation	n/a	1	0.5mL STS1%	None

1

2 **Table II: Endovascular treatment details**

1 Abbreviations: LLE= left lower extremity, RLE= right lower extremity, # sites= number of  
2 treatment access sites per session, V = venography, abl = endovenous radiofrequency or laser  
3 ablation, sclero = sclerotherapy, US = ultrasound, PTA = angioplasty, VM= multi-compartment  
4 venous malformation, GSV= great saphenous vein, SSV= small saphenous vein, AASV=  
5 anterior accessory saphenous vein, Lat= lateral marginal vein, PS= persistent sciatic vein, Perf=  
6 perforator vein, vv= varicose veins (unnamed), CIV= common iliac vein, -- not available, n/a =  
7 not applicable.

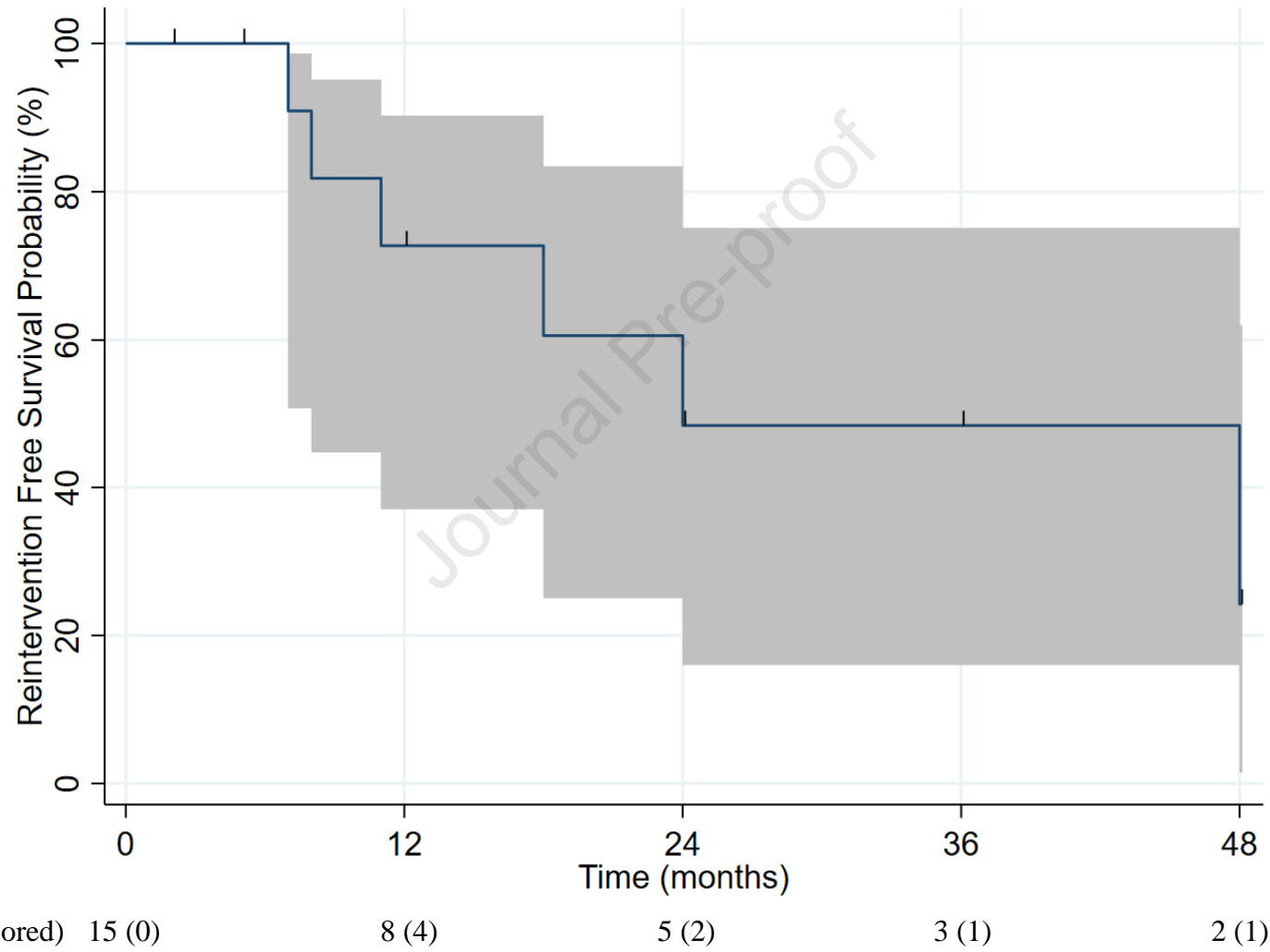
8

9

10

11

Figure 1: Kaplan-Meier estimation of reintervention free survival





**1 Table I: Presenting symptoms and treatment response of KTS patients**

2 Abbreviations: N presenting= number of patients with that symptom; N presenting (%)=  
3 percentage of all patients presenting with that symptom; N treated=number of patients with that  
4 symptom who underwent treatment; CR (%)= percentage of patients who demonstrated complete  
5 response of that symptom to treatment; PR (%)= percentage of patients who demonstrated partial  
6 response of that symptom to treatment.

**8 Table II: Endovascular treatment details**

9 Abbreviations: LLE= left lower extremity, RLE= right lower extremity, # sites= number of  
10 treatment access sites per session, V = venography, abl = endovenous radiofrequency or laser  
11 ablation, sclero = sclerotherapy, US = ultrasound, PTA = angioplasty, VM= multi-compartment  
12 venous malformation, GSV= great saphenous vein, SSV= small saphenous vein, AASV=  
13 anterior accessory saphenous vein, Lat= lateral marginal vein, PS= persistent sciatic vein, Perf=  
14 perforator vein, vv= varicose veins (unnamed), CIV= common iliac vein, -- not available, n/a =  
15 not applicable.

**17 Figure 1: Kaplan-Meier estimation for reintervention free survival**

18 The number of patients at risk and the number of censored patients are shown below each  
19 respective time point. Censored patients are demarcated on the survival curve with a hash mark.  
20 The 95% confidence interval is outlined in gray. Median re-intervention free survival time is 24  
21 months with a standard error of 13.70 months.