

MAGAZINE FOR LUXURY

NEWPORT COAST'S *Best*

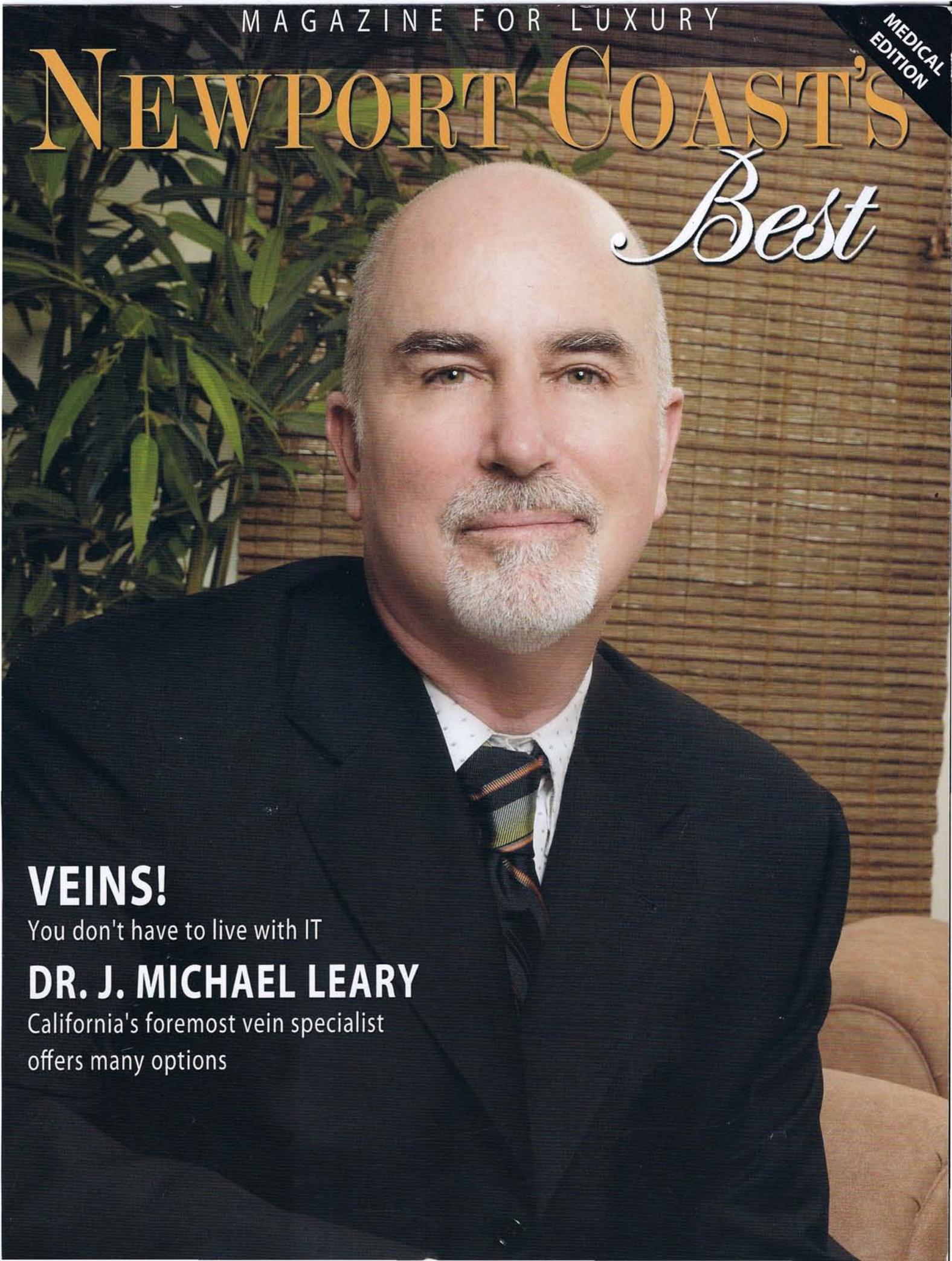
MEDICAL
EDITION

VEINS!

You don't have to live with IT

DR. J. MICHAEL LEARY

California's foremost vein specialist
offers many options



J. MICHAEL LEARY M.D. FACEP

Unightly and unhealthy, purple veins snaking up one's calves is the kind of thing most people try to ignore – until pain and vanity finally wear them down. Dr. J. Michael Leary knows that people have a negative perception of venous disease treatment. "There are a large number of patients that have been hesitant to get treatment of their varicose veins in the past because they would have to undergo painful surgical procedures with a long recovery time."

"Now the endovenous laser offers them a more effective treatment. The treatment is done here in the office. It takes less than an hour, and there's no general anesthesia. They can drive themselves to the office and drive themselves home."

At California Vein Specialists, Dr. Leary combines medical and cosmetic venous procedures, providing patients with the total treatment package. "While some practitioners concentrate on venous disease, they don't follow through with the cosmetic element to help the patient's leg look normal again. We do everything, from improving the disease to completing the treatment by eliminating spider veins and treating other physical issues," says Dr. Leary.

Phlebology is the branch of medicine that deals with veins and their diseases. Varicose veins, spider veins, and unsightly facial capillaries represent damaged veins with leaking internal valves. Left untreated, varicose and spider veins progressively worsen, potentially leading to swelling, discoloration and ulcerations.

Dr. Leary estimates that about 70 percent of his patients come in for medical reasons and the remaining 30 percent for cosmetic purposes. Dr. Leary finds satisfaction in having a practice that dramatically improves patients' quality of life: "From assisting truly disabled patients, such as those who can't stand for more than five minutes without pain, to eliminating veins that trouble women who hide their beautiful legs out of embarrassment – our work has a profound impact on many individuals."

New advances in laser technology have given way to noninvasive procedures. Venous disease is no longer treated with vein stripping. Options now include endovenous laser treatment (EVLT), the treatment through which a small laser fiber eliminates varicose veins at the source and provides immediate relief of symptoms. EVLT has a higher success rate, lower risks of post-surgical complications, causes less discomfort to patients, and has a much shorter recovery time than the vein-stripping procedure.

"Venous disease has been pretty under-addressed by the medical

community in the past. Oftentimes, patients with venous issues are told by their physicians, "This is something you'll have to live with." Because the medical community at large isn't generally focused on venous disease, many physicians simply aren't aware of the newer treatments that are available. Through training I am able to show them the many options that their patients have."

Dr. Leary and his staff have garnered a tremendous reputation. He has patients that come not only as far as from across the nation, but from overseas as well. His knowledge, skill, and caring staff place him in high demand – he performs over 40 procedures a month. Dr. Leary obtains satisfaction by staying current on all developments within his field and ensuring that people with venous diseases get the best treatment possible. He also takes pride in the service his patients receive: "I do excellent work, but we also provide exceptional follow-up and care. That has made a notable difference."

THE RÉSUMÉ: J. Michael Leary, M.D. FACEP

Dr. Leary has practiced phlebology since 2000, when he opened his first vein practice in Palm Desert. In 2003, he opened a practice in Newport Beach. Dr. Leary earned a degree from Sonoma State University and completed medical training at the Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara. He interned and underwent surgery training at Roanoke Memorial Hospital in Virginia. He also taught emergency medicine at the University of Virginia. He worked in trauma units for 12 years and spent 15 years as a senior partner in the emergency medicine department at Eisenhower Medical Center. His interest in vein treatment developed during his practice of emergency medicine: "One of the things they do in emergency medicine that is very important is venous access. I was always really good at being able to do that: enter the veins, temporary pacemakers and things like that."

As a member of the American College of Phlebology, Dr. Leary has been at the forefront of the field and is a nationally recognized trainer in intravenous procedures.

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