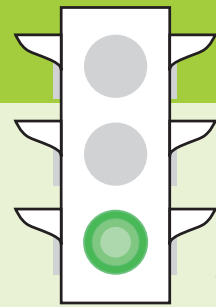
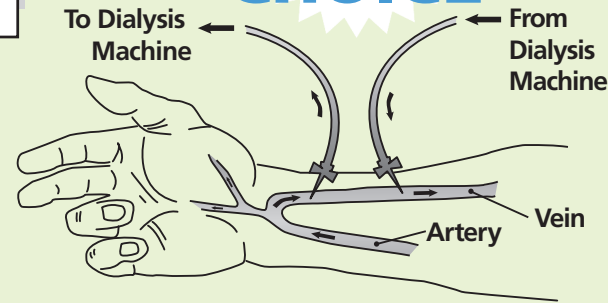


# VASCULAR ACCESS for HEMODIALYSIS



## FISTULA

**BEST CHOICE**



### PLACEMENT OPTIONS

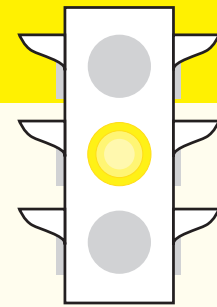
- Forearm
- Upper arm
- Thigh

### ADVANTAGES

- + Lasts many years
- + Less chance of infection
- + Higher blood flow rates
- + Fewer complications

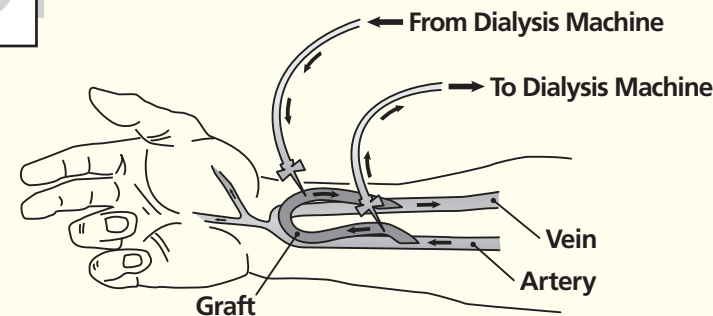
### DISADVANTAGES

- Takes the longest to mature (develop)
- May fail to mature, due to other health issues



## GRAFT

**ALTERNATE CHOICE**



### PLACEMENT OPTIONS

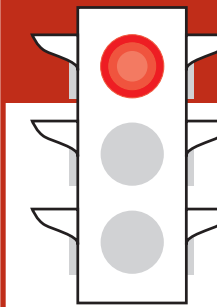
- Forearm
- Upper Arm
- Thigh
- Chest
- Straight or Loop

### ADVANTAGES

- + Can be used in two weeks after placement
- + Can be used when a fistula does not work
- + Can be used for patients with special health issues

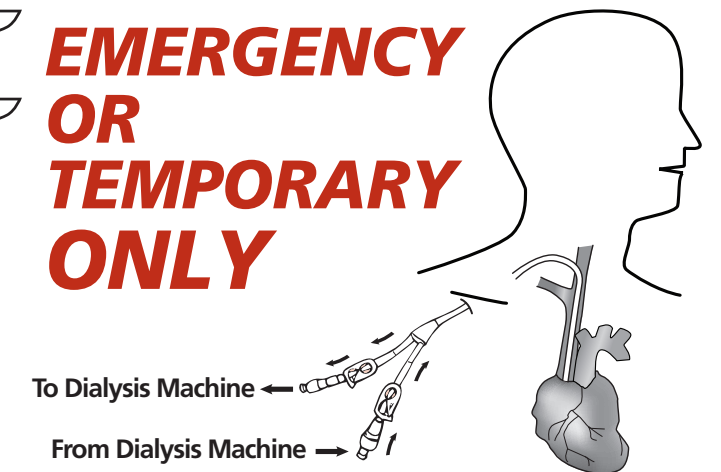
### DISADVANTAGES

- Clotting
- Infection
- Swelling
- Frequent interventions required
- May affect blood flow to the hand (Steal Syndrome)



## CATHETER

**EMERGENCY OR TEMPORARY ONLY**



### PLACEMENT OPTIONS

- Neck (jugular vein)
- Groin (femoral vein)
- Chest (subclavian vein) *should be avoided*

### ADVANTAGES

- + Can be used in an emergency (must have chest x-ray for placement prior to initial use)
- + Can be used while other access types are maturing

### DISADVANTAGES

- Clotting
- Infection
- Lower blood flow rates
- Vessel damage
- Designed for short-term use only



End-Stage Renal Disease  
Network of the South Atlantic

To file a grievance, please contact us:  
IPRO End-Stage Renal Disease Network of the South Atlantic  
909 Aviation Parkway, Suite 300, Morrisville, NC 27560  
Patient Toll-Free: (800) 524-7139 • Main: 919-463-4500 • Fax: 919-388-9637  
E-mail: info@nw6.esrd.net • Web: <http://network6.esrd.ipro.org>

This material was developed by Southern California Renal Disease Council, Inc. (Network 18) and Northwest Renal Network (Network 16), and adapted by IPRO ESRD Network of the South Atlantic while under contract with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Contract HHSM-500-2016-00006C

