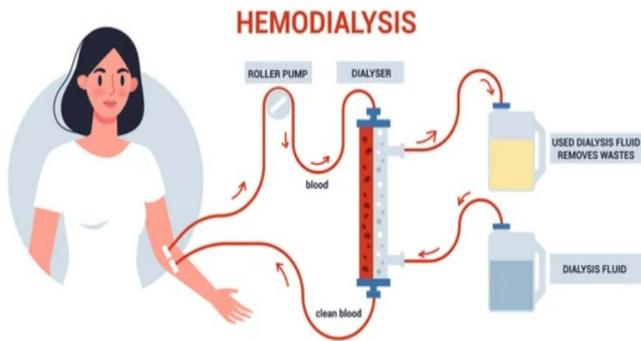


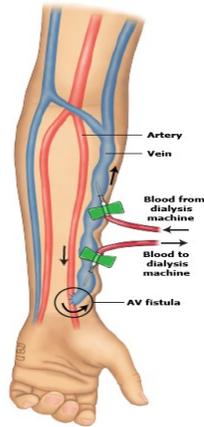


Dialysis Made Simple

Kidney failure occurs when your kidney loses the ability to clear waste from the body. Renal replacement therapy (RRT) is required for survival. RRT can take the form of a kidney transplant or dialysis. Dialysis is used as bridge until a transplant can be performed. Hemodialysis is the process whereby the blood is removed from the body and purified in a dialysis machine. The machine functions



like an artificial kidney. In order for this to be successful healthcare professionals need repeated, safe access to your blood. Access can be achieved via an AV Fistula (AVF), an AV Graft (AVG) or a Central Venous Catheter (CVC). All of these give access to the bloodstream however they are not equal. Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure and these two conditions combined, predisposes you to infection. Infection of your dialysis access can lead to bloodstream infection (sepsis) which can be lethal.

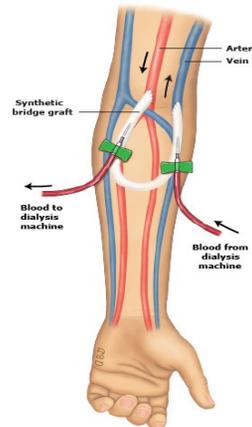


AV Fistula

Arteriovenous Fistula (AVF) is a connection created by your surgeon between an artery and a vein. The connection causes the vein to enlarge in size so that it can be accessed and dialysis performed. **It is the recommended type of hemodialysis access as it has the longest lifespan and the lowest risk of infection.**

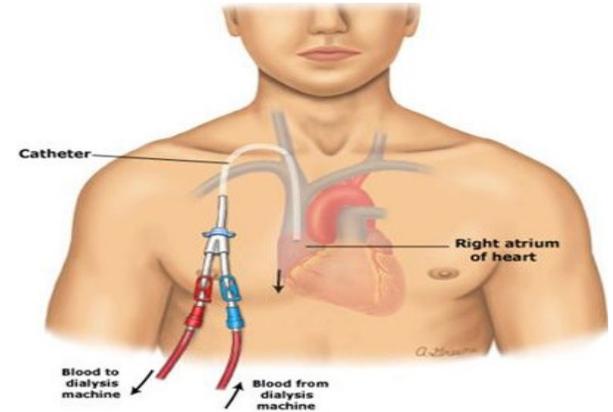
AV Graft

Arteriovenous grafts (AVG) is a connection between the artery and vein using an artificial tubing. It is done when you have no veins to create an AVF. **AVGs have a higher infection rate and shorter lifespan than AVF. It is only recommended in patients who have no options for fistula creation.**



Central Venous Catheter

Central venous catheter (CVC) is a silicone line that is placed in your vein with ports that can be used to access your blood for dialysis. CVCs are used in the initial stages of dialysis until a permanent access can be created. **CVCs have the highest risk of infection and are only recommended for short term use.**



Long term use of CVCs is associated with bloodstream infections, central vein blockage and swelling of the arm and face.

Fistula First Initiative

The US National Kidney Foundation recommends a fistula first policy as it has been shown that they have the best outcomes in terms of infection, morbidity, quality of life and cost for patients.

Book your fistula consultation today and simplify your dialysis access



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