

Michigan

Kidney Consultants P.C.

Dialysis Access Center

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Southfield, MI 48076
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AV FISTULA



CONS
Visible on the forearm, may take a while to develop, not possible for all patients, may fail to mature.

The **AV Fistula** is a vascular connection between your artery and vein. Fistulas are preferred vascular access for long-term dialysis patients.

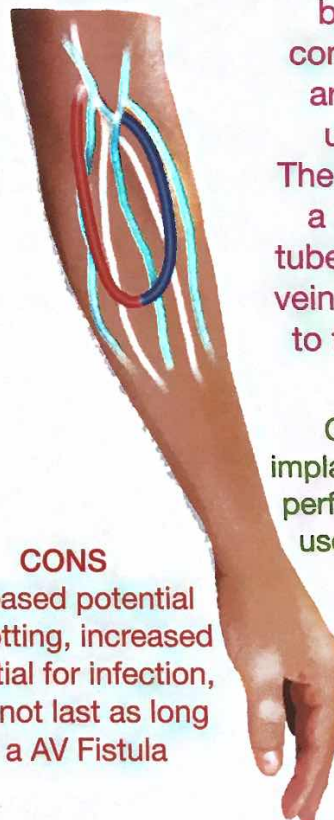
PROS
Best overall performance, best choice for vascular access, less chance for infection, may last many years, increased blood flow.

The three types of dialysis vascular access are:

AV FISTULA & GRAFT & CATHETER (shown on back).

Each one has its own advantages and disadvantages. Your Nephrologist / Doctor will assist you in selecting the type of vascular access which is best for you.

GRAFT



CONS
Increased potential for clotting, increased potential for infection, does not last as long as a AV Fistula

The **Graft** is formed by an indirect connection of the artery and vein using a tube. The Graft is usually a soft synthetic tube that acts like a vein, allowing blood to flow through it.

PROS
Can be readily implanted, predictable performance, can be used earlier than a AV Fistula.

Your dialysis vascular access represents your lifeline. The Doctors at the Access Center are dedicated to assisting you in resolving any problems or complications that affect your vascular access in a safe and efficient manner.

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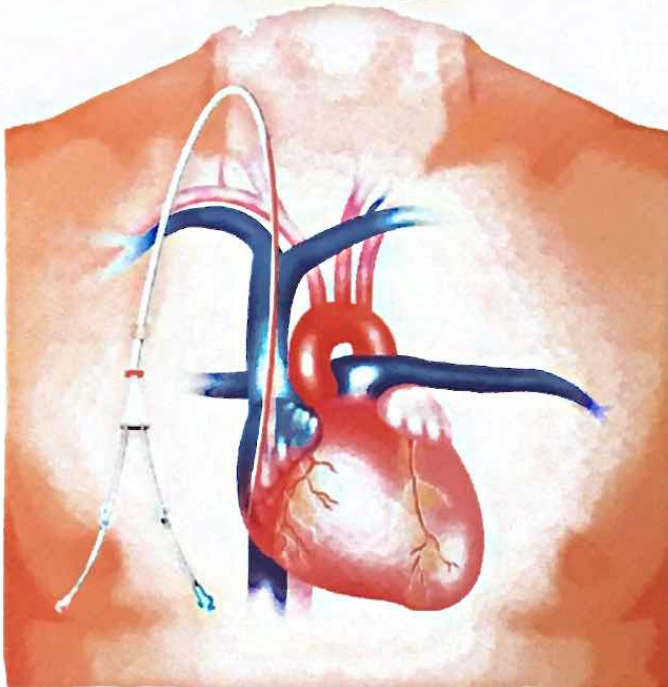
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Catheters are hollow tubes that allow blood to flow in and out of your body. They are most commonly used as a temporary access or when patients need immediate dialysis. They are also used when permanent access fails.

There are several types of dialysis catheters. They are designed to tunnel under the skin to minimize discomfort and to reduce complications.

CATHETER



The three types of dialysis vascular access are:
AV FISTULA & GRAFT
(shown on front) & **CATHETER**.

Each one has its own advantages and disadvantages. Your Nephrologist / Doctor will assist you in selecting the type of vascular access which is best for you.

PROS

Dialysis can be started immediately, inserted as an outpatient procedure, easy removal and replacement.

CONS

Not ideal as a permanent access, high infection rates, difficult to obtain sufficient blood flow to allow for adequate toxin removal, may cause narrowed veins, swimming and showering are not recommended.

Your dialysis vascular access represents your lifeline. The Doctors at the Access Center are dedicated to assisting you in resolving any problems or complications that affect your vascular access in a safe and efficient manner.