

5 Important Principles for Dialysis Using Nicast's AVflo™ Graft

Because the AVflo™ graft is softer than PTFE, it requires a **different handling and dialysis technique**.

The 5 Important Principles for Dialysis described below will contribute to optimal cannulation, needle removal, and rapid hemostasis associated with the graft.

The AVflo™ is accessed within 24-48 hours after implant, provided that no contraindications are present.

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| <p>1</p> | <p>Identify the AVflo™ Graft's Configuration. There are three AVflo™ configurations;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight (non-coiled) • Centered coil • Off-centered coil <p>Identify the graft configuration prior to cannulation. Determine the coil location (if exists)</p> |
| <p>2</p> | <p>Handle the AVflo™ Graft Gently. NEVER cannulate or press the coil region of the graft as this may damage the graft. ALWAYS cannulate the non-coiled region of the graft. Insert the needle with the bevel facing up at a 45° angle Rotate the needle placement sites ("rope ladder" technique) and always use aseptic techniques. Do not puncture the same site twice ("buttonhole" technique)!</p> |
| <p>3</p> | <p>Confirm Needle Entry with Blood Flashback. When inserting the needle confirm that it has successfully entered into the graft by watching for blood flashback in the needle hub / tubing. NEVER confirm entry with feeling or "pop." DO NOT exert excessive pressure on the needle. Once entry is confirmed, straighten and adjust the needle to ensure optimal placement.</p> |
| <p>4</p> | <p>Remove Needles from the AVflo™ Graft with Care. At the end of each dialysis treatment, slowly remove needles at the same angle as their original entry (45°). NEVER apply pressure to the access site or the needles, at any time during removal.</p> |
| <p>5</p> | <p>Apply Gentle Manual Pressure for Rapid Hemostasis. DO NOT use clamps or apply elastic wrap or compression-type bandages! DO NOT use excessive compression! After removing the needle, use a sterile cotton ball or gauze pad to apply non-occlusive gentle, manual pressure to achieve rapid hemostasis by compressing the cannulation site. Maintain manual pressure for about 1 to 5 minutes or until bleeding stops.</p> |

Please consult the instructions for use, product labels and package inserts for indications, contraindications, cautions, warnings, and hazards.

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