

## 7 Important Principles for Implanting Nicast's AVflo™ Graft

The AVflo™ vascular access graft is softer than ePTFE grafts. The 7 Important Principles listed below will ensure optimal implantation. The AVflo™ can be accessed within 24-48 hours after implantation, provided there are no contraindications.

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Select correct AVflo™ configuration according to intended implantation site</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Straight (non-coiled) - normally used for implantation in the upper arm</li> <li>• Center coiled - normally used for U-bend implantation in the forearm</li> <li>• Off- center coiled - normally used for implantation in the upper arm</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Use tunneler sheath for implantation</b></p> <p><b>ALWAYS</b> implant the AVflo™ by pushing it through a tunneler sheath.</p> <p><b>NEVER</b> implant the AVflo™ by pulling it with a rod tunneler.</p> <p><b>NEVER</b> press or puncture the coil region of the AVflo™ (in center-coiled and off-center coiled configurations).</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Hydrate gently in sterile saline solution</b></p> <p>Hydrate the AVflo™ by gently compressing it in a bowl of sterile saline until bubbling stops.</p> <p><b>NEVER</b> compress the coil region during hydration.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Create ample pockets and windows for the AVflo™</b></p> <p>Create ample pockets and windows in the fascia to avoid constriction of anastomoses and of AVflo's apex (in U-Bend implantations), and to allow for slight elongation of the AVflo™ following blood pressure buildup.</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Validate AVflo's positioning and absence of twist</b></p> <p><b>ALWAYS</b> validate AVflo's positioning and absence of twist before removing the sheath.</p> <p><b>NEVER</b> reposition the AVflo™ after removing the tunneler sheath.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Trim AVflo™ to required length</b></p> <p>Due to its elasticity, trim the AVflo™ approximately 5mm shorter than the measured length.</p> <p><b>NEVER</b> trim the AVflo™ to less than 10mm from the coiled section (when implanting a coiled graft).</p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Suture AVflo™ with care</b></p> <p>Use a standard non-cutting needle with non-absorbable 5.0 or 6.0 monofilament suture. There is no need to use special ePTFE suture.</p>

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

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