



GUIDE TO PREPARATION FOR A DIALYSIS ACCESS

YOUR ACCESS WILL BE YOUR LIFELINE. BE SURE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- No blood draws or IV insertions in the arm that you will have the access placed in.
- Do not wear constrictive clothing or jewelry such as a watch on your access arm.
- Do not do anything that may compromise the blood flow to that arm. Example: sleeping on that arm at night.

YOU NEED TO HAVE AN ACCESS PLACE FOLLOWING THESE GUIDELINES:

- Choose A Qualified Surgeon.
- Ask Questions.

MAKE IT CLEAR THAT YOU WOULD PREFER AN AV FISTULA (AV FISTULAS HAVE THE BEST OUTCOMES).

- Schedule Vein Mapping

WHAT IS VEIN MAPPING?

A painless ultrasound procedure that allows the surgeon to see your arteries and veins. This lets them choose the best route to ensure a successful access for each patient.

WHEN VEIN MAPPING IS SCHEDULED WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

- To remove all jewelry
- Your arm will be turned outward
- Gel is put on the arms to help carry the sound waves
- The transducer will be moved along the arm and sounds from the blood flowing in the vessels may be heard
- You will be asked to remain still during the test

Regardless of what Doppler is used for vein mapping there are no known risks to patients.

Reference: www.fistulafirst.org and ESRD Network 12, the Heartland Kidney Network