

Supporting Your Fistula for Dialysis



About Hemodialysis

Hemodialysis is a medical treatment that filters toxins from your blood when your kidneys fail.

The treatment requires a physician to create a vascular access point for blood to be removed, filtered and returned safely and efficiently.

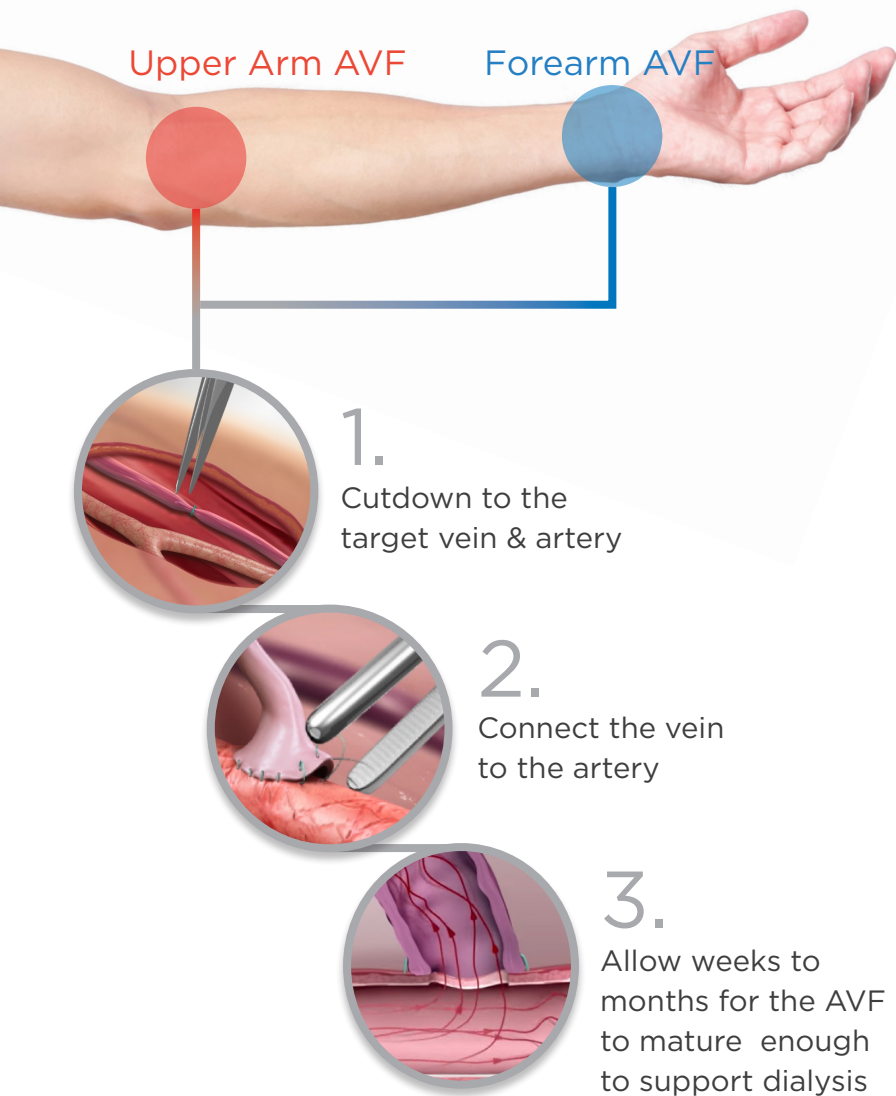
There are a few types of vascular access, but physicians universally prefer a direct connection between a vein and an artery called an **arteriovenous fistulas** (AVF) because of its demonstrated fewer complications and durability.¹



¹KDOQI Vascular Access Guideline Work Group. KDOQI Clinical Practice Guidelines for vascular access: 2019 update. Am J Kidney Dis. 2020;75(4) (suppl 2):S1-S164.

About Arteriovenous Fistulas (AVF)

An AVF can be created in multiple locations within your arm, preferably starting with the forearm to save the upper arm for future use. Your vein will need weeks to months for vessel walls to thicken and blood flow to increase before it is considered mature enough to support dialysis.



Why AVFs Fail to Mature

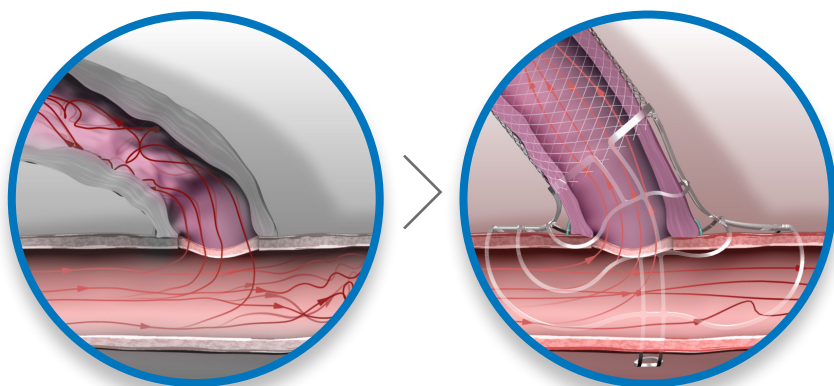
AVFs tend to have a high rate of early failure that may require multiple additional procedures to make them usable. Some may even need to be abandoned for a new vascular access.

Early failure tends to occur because the vein does not have the structure to support the change in blood flow and higher pressure from the artery.

VasQ Supports AVF Usability

The VasQ External Support provides structural support to reinforce the vein against the changes in blood flow and pressure. Clinical evidence has shown that VasQ reduces the risk of early failure and improves the potential that your AVF becomes usable for dialysis.²

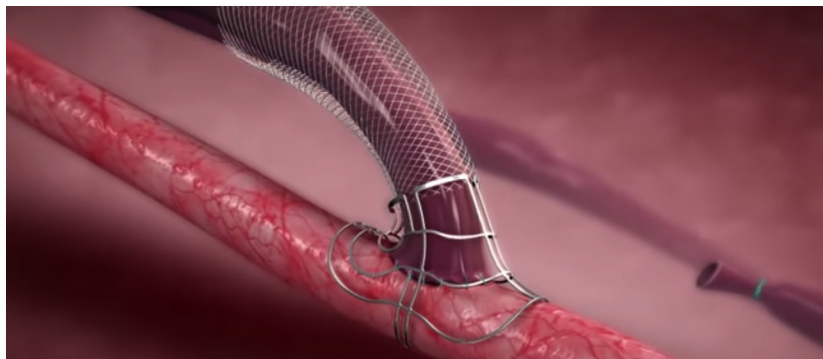
This means you have a better chance of receiving dialysis through your AVF without the need for additional procedures.



²Karydis N et al. Am J Kidney Dis. 2020 Jan;75(1):45-53.

VasQ Procedure

VasQ is placed at the time of the AVF creation procedure with no impact to your hospital stay or recovery.



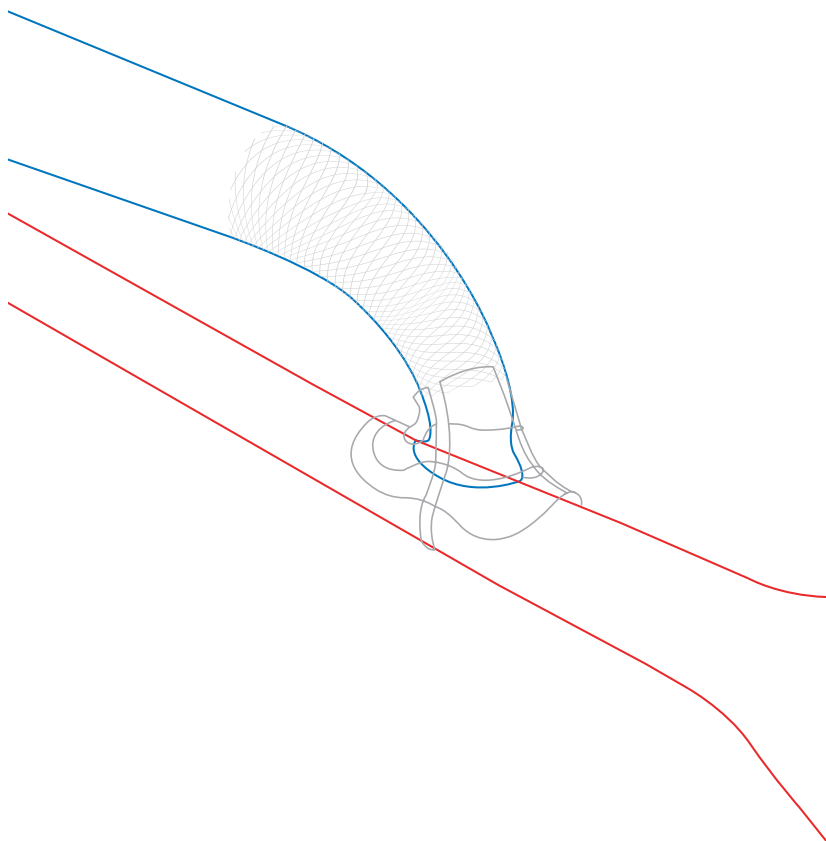
Follow up

Your surgeon will schedule a follow-up appointment within the next month to assess your AVF and eventually determine when it is ready to be used for dialysis. Once ready, your nephrologist will make the plan of when to begin dialysis through the AVF. VasQ is a permanent implant which does not require any dedicated additional follow-up.



For more information about kidney disease and dialysis, please visit:

<https://www.kidney.org/atoz/content/hemodialysis>



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