

Patient

"Ready, Set, Go" The Steps to Catheter Freedom Weeks 1-2: New Fistula Daily Check

Access
Placed



Weeks 1-2



Week 3



Weeks 4-5



Week 6

Catheter
Freedom

Week 10

Check your fistula every day.

If you do not know how, ask your Dialysis Care Team to teach you how to monitor your fistula.

Look



Feel



Did you notice anything different when you checked your fistula today?

No change.

Yes, a change.

Great! Keep checking each day. At your next treatment, tell your Dialysis Care Team that there was no change.

Call the contact given to you by your Dialysis Care Team. Share what you found. They will tell you what to do next.

Continued..

Patient

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Look



The dressing is **clean and dry**.

The skin around the dressing looks **like it did** before you had surgery. The hand **looks the same** as it did before surgery.

When the dressing is no longer needed, the surgery site is **clean and dry**.

Once it has healed, the **skin over the fistula is all one color** and looks like the skin around it.

The dressing is **wet or soiled**.
There is **drainage** on the dressing.

The arm is **bruised** and/or the hand is **not the normal color**.

There is **redness, swelling, or drainage**.

There is **redness, swelling, or drainage**.

Feel



When a dressing is no longer needed, place your hand over the fistula. **You can feel the fistula under the skin**.

You cannot feel the fistula. The hand of the affected arm feels **numb and/or cold to the touch**.

**Ask a member of your Dialysis Care Team to complete the form below.
Did any of the results of your daily fistula check fall under the "STOP" column?
If so, call the contact listed below and share your results to find out what to do next.**

Contact: _____

During regular facility hours: _____

After hours: _____



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