

# Patient Access Safety

Use this tool to improve the safety of your vascular access and overall infection control.

## General Guidelines

- ✓ Always wash your hands before touching your access.
- ✓ Speak up if you notice any redness, swelling, or drainage.
- ✓ Help educate staff who are not using proper infection control techniques.



### Fistula/Graft

- Do not wear tight fitting shirts, jewelry, or carry heavy items on your access arm.
- Use other arm for blood pressures or blood draws.



### Dialysis Catheter

- Keep site clean, dry, and covered in between treatments.
- Wear a mask when being hooked up.
- Ask your doctor when or if you can take a bath or shower.



### Peritoneal Catheter

- Do not swim or take a bath, unless your doctor tells you it is okay.
- Keep your exit site clean and dry. Check it daily for signs of infection.

***\*These are general suggestions. Always consult with your care team about your specific needs.***



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