

Dialysis Access Procedures We Perform

- Temporary and tunneled dialysis catheter placement/removal
- Fistula maintenance procedures
- Fistula thrombectomy

Problems for patients to look for:

- Swollen arm
- Prolonged bleeding
- Poor clearance
- Numbness/tingling of the hand



When there is a blockage preventing passage of urine from the kidney to the bladder, an interventional radiologist can place a percutaneous nephrostomy tube or ureteral stent to allow urine to flow from the kidney.

Here is a description of other treatments we offer:

- **Percutaneous Nephrostomy Tube** bypasses a blockage of the ureter (tube connecting the kidney and bladder) and directs urine into a bag outside the body.
- **Ureteral Stent Placement** inserts a tiny mesh tube to bypass a blockage of the ureter, connecting the kidney and bladder.

ivc Interventional and Vascular Consultants

Interventional and Vascular Consultants is a comprehensive medical practice specializing in minimally invasive endovascular solutions to diagnose and treat diseases of the blood vessels. Our unique approach to vascular care is recognized for its commitment to clinical excellence and outstanding patient satisfaction.

The minimally invasive techniques used by interventional radiologists often replace open surgical procedures because there are no large incisions, less risk, reduced pain, and shorter recovery times for patients. Our state-of-the-art endovascular suites are equipped with the newest devices to assist in performing minimally invasive procedures.

How to make an appointment:

Physician Referrals

Call or fax a request to our office. Please include any pertinent X-rays, labs and chart notes you have. These will be reviewed and a consultation appointment will be scheduled with your patient. We can provide your office with referral forms as well.

Patient Direct Referrals

Call or email inquiry. We will review your inquiry. We may ask for additional information prior to a consultation appointment to assure that we can provide the care you are seeking.

Available for Consultation in Wilsonville

Treatment is available at our outpatient center in Wilsonville and at the following hospital locations: Legacy Emanuel, Legacy Meridian Park, Legacy Mt. Hood and Legacy Salmon Creek.

Wilsonville Office

25030 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 200
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Phone: **503.612.0498** | Fax: 503.459.0521
www.ivcnorthwest.com | info@ivcnorthwest.com

Kidneys & Dialysis



ivc Interventional and Vascular Consultants

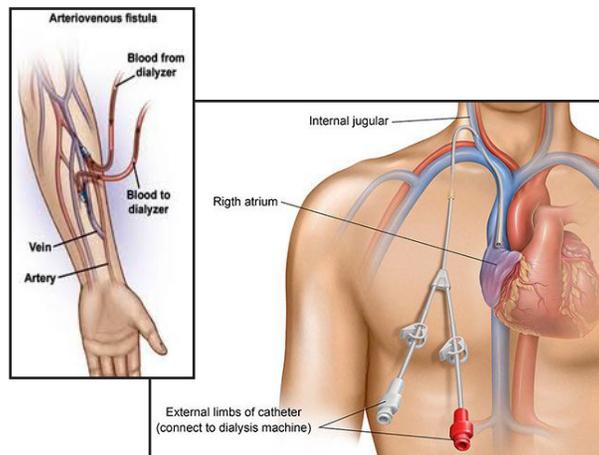
Kidneys & Dialysis

The kidneys are responsible for removing excess fluid and waste products from the body in the form of urine. When the kidneys do not work properly, these substances accumulate in your body and can cause problems that could be life-threatening and can impact nearly every aspect of your body.



Over the past 2 decades, interventional radiologists (IRs) have increasingly been involved in evaluation and treatment of malfunctioning and occluded hemodialysis access. The multidisciplinary management of dialysis access coordinated among IRs, vascular surgeons, and nephrologists has proven very effective in prolonging the patency of the vascular access and improving outcomes for patients with chronic kidney disease.

How Hemodialysis Works



Hemodialysis is a closed circuit filtering process where blood has to flow at a certain rate into an artificial kidney machine to remove toxins and extra water. This is accomplished with either a dialysis catheter or a fistula/graft. Access to your circulation has to be obtained at two points. An exit point where blood is withdrawn from the circulation, allowed to flow via plastic tubes into the hemodialysis machine and then returned to the body via another set of tubes. The process does not spill or contaminate your blood. It is usually done as an outpatient procedure three times a week.

How to Keep Your Access Working

Your dialysis care team will check your access often to ensure it is functioning well. An access that is not working well over time can decrease the amount of dialysis you receive. Your dialysis care team will teach you how to check your fistula or graft daily. The following are tips you can use to help keep a fistula or graft working:

- Pulse or thrill – check the blood flow several times a day by feeling the vibration in the access, if you notice a change contact your doctor or dialysis center.
- Do not wear tight clothes or jewelry on your access arm.
- Do not sleep with your head on your access arm.
- Do not let anyone use a blood pressure cuff on your access arm.
- Do not let anyone draw blood from your access arm.
- Do not carry anything heavy or put pressure on the access.

How to Care for Your Catheter

Catheters are not the ideal permanent access, however if your kidney disease has progressed quickly, you are waiting for your permanent access to mature, or your fistula or graft surgery was unsuccessful, you may need to have a catheter placed.

By taking good care of your catheter, it will last much longer, and you will prevent problems such as infection and clotting.

Here are some important steps to take:

- Keep the catheter and dressing clean and dry.
- Change the dressing at each dialysis session.
- The cap and the clamps of your catheter should be kept tightly closed when not being used for dialysis. Only your care team should use your dialysis catheter to draw blood or to add medications or fluids.
- If the area around your catheter feels sore or looks red, call your dialysis care team at once.