

Focus on Fistula



EDUCATION FOR CAREGIVERS AND PATIENTS

- Routine facility staff in-service and education program in vascular access.
- Continuing education for all caregivers to include periodic in-services by nephrologists, surgeons and interventionalists.
- Facilities educate patients to improve quality of care and outcomes (e.g., prepping puncture sites, applying proper pressure at needle sites without clamps, AVF brochures, etc.)

*The Florida
ESRD
Network is
Here to
Help!*

Assess your barriers to providing education on fistula placement for staff and patients —

1. Our facility doesn't have a formal vascular access educational program.
2. Our facility is short-staffed and doesn't have time to educate the patients.
3. Our facility doesn't have access to educational materials.

Interventions to Barriers

1. Assemble a multi-disciplinary vascular access team.
2. Designate a vascular access coordinator. (It doesn't have to be a RN.)
3. Incorporate vascular access into your facility's monthly continuous quality improvement (CQI) processes. Involve the medical director/nephrologist, nurse, social worker, dietitian, patient care tech and patient in CQI meetings.
4. Download patient and staff resources at www.fmqai.com/ESRD/esrd.htm (under Change Concept 10).
5. If possible, broadcast vascular access videos to patients during their treatment.
6. Encourage patients to read the Network Patient Newsletter for valuable information regarding vascular access and the Fistula First initiative.
7. Encourage discussion regarding fistula placement at the scale, during initial patient assessment and at discharge.
8. Inform nephrologists and surgeons of 10.5 AMA PRA Category 1 credits available with completion of "Creating AV Fistulas in All Eligible Hemodialysis Patients" continuing medical education on-line training course at www.fistulafirst.org. Click on course title to open.
9. View the new Fistula First website at www.fistulafirst.org.

4350 W. Cypress St., Suite 900
Tampa, FL 33607
Phone: 813-383-1530, ext. 5
Fax: 813-354-1514
Website: www.fmqai.com/ESRD/esrd.htm
Email: info@nw7.esrd.net

