

Vascular Access Center of WNG

Dialysis Access Procedure Information

The following information has been provided to help you prepare for your upcoming procedure as well as answer some questions you may have about what to expect.

- Eating and drinking prior to your procedure is allowed
Do not overindulge
Please eat a **light** meal
- Bring a current list of your medications
- Transportation arrangements must be made for all procedures except for catheter removals and vein mapping

| Procedure | Average Time | Possible Indications | Benefits |
|---|---------------------|---|--|
| Angiogram/Angioplasty: An x-ray, using dye, to film your access and connecting blood vessels. An angioplasty is needed if the x-ray shows any stenotic or narrow blood vessels. | 45 min. | Poor blood flow, increased bleeding time, poor clearances, difficult cannulation. | Prevention of clotting, increased clearance, easier cannulation and decreased bleeding after dialysis. |
| Thrombectomy: Removal of clotted blood and restoration of blood flow. | 90 min. | No pulse in access as determined by your dialysis nurse. | Restoration of blood flow, enabling you to have dialysis and stay out of the hospital. |
| Catheter Placement: A plastic tube usually placed on your chest for dialysis access. | 60 min. | No other usable access. Malfunctioning or infected catheter. | Provides you with an access for dialysis. |
| Catheter Removal: Removal of the catheter. | 15 min. | Catheter no longer needed. Infected or malfunctioning. | You will be able to shower once the exit site is healed. |
| Vein Mapping: An x-ray using dye to film your veins before an access is created. | 45 min. | You are approaching the need for dialysis. | The map can help your surgeon to determine the best access for you. |