AV Access Cannulation Checklists
KDOQI Cannulation Practices

- Assess or check the vascular access and surrounding area by physical exam prior to every cannulation (if AV access) or connection (if CVC) for potential complications

- Use rope ladder cannulation as preferred technique for AV fistulas

- Use buttonhole cannulation only under special circumstances due to risks of infection and related complications

- Avoid buttonhole cannulation in synthetic AV grafts

- Initial AV access cannulations should be performed by skilled cannulators with established cannulation success

- Structured training and supervision should be provided to dialysis technicians and nurses before and during their initial cannulation attempts
KDOQI Cannulation Practices – cont.

- There should be regular cannulation training updates for dialysis technicians and nurses to maintain cannulation training
  
- Eligible patients should be supported and educated to self cannulation of their AV accesses
Checklist: Arteriovenous fistula/graft cannulation

- Clean site with soap and water
- Perform hand hygiene (staff)
- Put on new, clean gloves
- Apply skin antiseptic and allow it to dry
- Do not contact site (after antisepsis)
- Insert needles aseptically
- Secure needles with tape
- Connect to blood lines aseptically
- Remove gloves
- Perform hand hygiene
Checklist: Arteriovenous fistula/graft cannulation

- Perform hand hygiene (staff)
- Put on new, clean gloves
- Disconnect from blood lines aseptically
- Unsecure needles by removing tape
- Remove needles aseptically and activate needle retraction device
- Wear clean gloves (patient and/or staff) to compress site
- Apply clean gauze/bandage to site
- Remove gloves (staff and/or patient)
- Perform hand hygiene (staff and/or patient)
### Audit Tool: Arteriovenous fistula/graft cannulation observations

(Use a "✓" if action performed correctly, a "✗" if not performed. If not observed, leave blank)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Site cleaned with soap and water</th>
<th>Hand hygiene performed (staff)</th>
<th>New, clean gloves worn</th>
<th>Skin antiseptic applied appropriately</th>
<th>Skin antiseptic allowed to dry</th>
<th>No contact with fistula/graft site (after antisepsis)</th>
<th>Cannulation performed aseptically</th>
<th>Connect to bloodlines aseptically</th>
<th>Gloves removed</th>
<th>Hand hygiene</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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Discipline: **P**=physician, **N**=nurse, **T**=technician, **S**=student, **O**=other

Duration of observation period = __ minutes

Number of procedures performed correctly = ____________

Total number of procedures observed during audit = ____________

### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/OBSERVATIONS
Audit Tool: Arteriovenous fistula/graft decannulation observations
(Use a "✓" if action performed correctly, a "✗" if not performed. If not observed, leave blank)

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<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Hand hygiene performed (staff)</th>
<th>New, clean gloves worn</th>
<th>Disconnect from blood line aseptically</th>
<th>Needles removed aseptically</th>
<th>Clean gloves worn (by patient/staff) to compress site</th>
<th>Clean gauze/ bandage applied to site</th>
<th>If other activities performed between needle removals, hand hygiene is performed and new, clean gloves are worn</th>
<th>Staff gloves removed</th>
<th>Staff hand hygiene performed</th>
<th>Patient gloves removed and hand hygiene performed (if applicable)</th>
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Discipline: P=physician, N=nurse, T=technician, S=student, O=other
Duration of observation period = ___ minutes
Number of procedures performed correctly = ____________________________
Total number of procedures observed during audit = ________________

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/OBSERVATIONS