

Patient

"Ready, Set, Go" The Steps to Catheter Freedom Week 4: New Graft Daily Check

Access
Placed



Week 1



Weeks 2-3



Catheter
Freedom

Week 4

Check your graft every day.

If you do not know how, ask your Dialysis Care Team to teach you how to monitor your graft.

Look



Listen



Feel



**Did you notice anything different
when you checked your graft today?**

No change.



Yes, a change.



Continued..

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Look

The skin over the graft is **all one color** and looks like the skin around it.



There is **redness, swelling or drainage**. There are **skin bulges** with **shiny, bleeding, or peeling skin**.

Listen

When you place your graft next to your ear, you hear a sound. The **sound is the same as the last time** you checked it.



When you place the graft next to your ear, you hear **no sound, Or the sound is different** than the last time you checked it.

Feel



Thrill: A vibration or buzz that can be felt best where the graft is joined to the artery.

The thrill will grow fainter along the length of the graft.

Pulse is a slight beating like a heartbeat. Fingers placed lightly on the graft move slightly.

You cannot feel the thrill or it is weaker over the area where the artery is joined to the graft. It is **not as strong as it was the last time you checked it**.

The beat **is stronger than a normal pulse**. Fingers placed lightly on the graft **rise and fall with each beat**.

Continued..

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*Ask a member of your Dialysis Care Team to complete the form below.
Did any of the results of your daily graft check fall under the **"STOP"** column?
If so, call the contact listed below and share your
results to find out what to do next.*

Contact: _____
During regular facility hours: _____
After hours: _____



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