

## Arteriovenous Fistula/Graft (AVF/AVG) Pre-Needle Insertion Assessment Tool

Signs and symptoms	Score	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No scabs larger than the needle sites</li> <li>○ No pain or new swelling</li> <li>○ No necrosed areas</li> <li>○ No aneurysms</li> <li>○ No erythema</li> <li>○ Normal bruit / thrill</li> <li>○ No hardness over AVF/AVG</li> </ul>	<b>0</b>	<p><b>No action required</b></p> <p>Safe to needle</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ No scabs larger than the needle sites</li> <li>❖ No pain or new swelling</li> <li>❖ No necrosed areas</li> <li>❖ No erythema</li> <li>❖ Normal bruit / thrill</li> <li>❖ No hardness over AVF/AVG</li> <li>❖ Aneurysms present and stable               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Not increasing in size</li> <li>○ Skin not shiny or thin over aneurysms</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>1</b>	<p><b>Monitor</b></p> <p>Consider photograph AVF/AVG for reference</p> <p>Document aneurysm size, by measuring arm diameter at aneurysm and position</p> <p>Safe to needle</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No necrosed areas</li> <li>• No scabs larger than needle sites anywhere on AVF/AVG</li> </ul> <p>Any of the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Pain or discomfort to any area on the AVF/AVG</li> <li>○ Aneurysms increasing in size or pulsating</li> <li>○ New aneurysms</li> <li>○ Thin and shiny skin around AVF</li> <li>○ Whistling bruit on auscultation</li> <li>○ Non cannulation segments hard on palpation</li> <li>○ Bleeding around needle site during dialysis</li> <li>○ Extended post dialysis bleeding &gt;20minutes</li> <li>○ Erythema &gt;3mm anywhere on the AVF/AVG</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	<p><b>Refer to Vascular Access Team</b></p> <p>Previous actions <u>and</u> Patient information given on actions and escalation if AVF/AVG bleeds at home</p> <p>Review individual's antiplatelet and anticoagulation prescription</p> <p>Consider swabbing erythema</p> <p>Lift arm above head, to assess whether aneurysms drain</p>
<p>Any of previous signs <u>with</u> any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Pain / swelling to AVF/AVG</li> <li>❖ Necrosed area on AVF/AVG</li> <li>❖ Patient reports sites bleed at home</li> <li>❖ Scabs at needle sites or elsewhere &gt;3mm</li> <li>❖ Absent or changed thrill on palpation</li> <li>❖ Absent bruit on auscultation</li> <li>❖ Cannulation segments hard on palpation</li> <li>❖ Oozing (pus) from red/inflamed areas</li> <li>❖ Erythema increased in size</li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	<p><b>Do not needle</b></p> <p><b>Urgently refer to Renal / Vascular Team</b></p> <p><b>Keep patient in department</b></p> <p>Previous actions <u>and</u> Swab pus / erythema</p> <p>Take blood cultures if erythema or pus present</p> <p>Take U&amp;Es</p>

