(A) Policy Statement

Arteriovenous Fistula (AVF), Arteriovenous Graft (AVG), or hemodialysis catheters are to be used for access purposes only and with specific permission of patient’s nephrologist.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To prevent inappropriate use of hemodialysis access sites.

(C) Procedure

1. An order must be obtained from a nephrologist prior to using a patients’ AVF, AVG, or hemodialysis catheter for a blood draw or IV infusion.

2. Only trained Registered Nurses (RNs) may perform venipunctures on AVF or AVG.

3. Hemodialysis Unit staff are to be utilized as resource for AVF, AVG, or hemodialysis catheter access.

4. Refer to Mosby Nursing Skills for proper flushing of hemodialysis catheters.