

Bleeding Fistula or Graft: What To Do

- It is rare for your fistula or graft to bleed after you leave the dialysis unit.
- This brochure tells you what to do if it does happen.

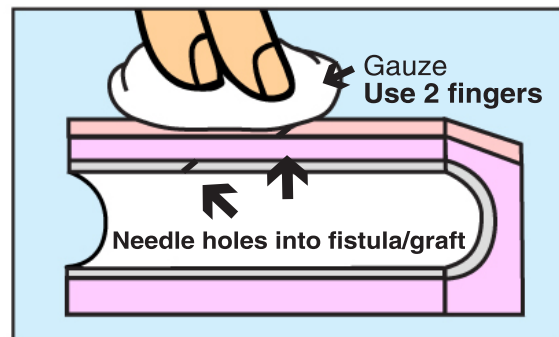
What supplies do I need in case my needle sites bleed at home?

- Gauze pads
- Tape
- Gloves

Keep these supplies in your emergency kit.

What do I do if my needle sites start to bleed after I leave the dialysis unit?

1. Stay calm!
2. Place firm pressure on the needle sites:
 - Use gauze, clean cloth, tissue or paper towel.
 - **Press the sites with two fingers for 15 minutes.**
 - Hold the bleeding arm above the heart.
3. Call for help from somewhere nearby!
4. If the bleeding stops, apply a band aid. Let your nurse know about the bleeding the next time you are at dialysis.
5. If the bleeding does not stop, call 911.



How to hold pressure over the needle hole