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.**

Great! Keep checking each day. At your next treatment, tell your Dialysis Care Team that there was no change.

**Yes, a change.**

Call the contact given to you by your Dialysis Care Team. Share what you found. They will tell you what to do next.

Continued..
When a dressing is no longer needed, place your graft next to your ear. You hear the blood going through it.

You hear no sound, or the sound is not as loud as the last time it was checked.

When a dressing is no longer needed, place your hand over the graft. You can feel the graft under the skin.

You cannot feel the graft. The hand of your affected arm feels numb and/or cold to the touch.
The thrill will grow fainter along the length of the graft.

You cannot feel the thrill or it is weaker than it was the last time you checked it.

Pulse is a slight beating that feels like a heartbeat. When you place your fingers lightly on the graft, they move slightly.

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

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**Feel**

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

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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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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.

Great! Keep checking each day. At your next treatment, tell your Dialysis Care Team that there was no change.

Call the contact given to you by your Dialysis Care Team. Share what you found. They will tell you what to do next.
When you place the graft next to your ear you hear a sound. It may sound like a “whoosh,” or for some, like a drum beat.

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

You can feel the graft.

You cannot feel the graft.
The thrill will grow fainter along the length of the graft.

Pulse is a slight beating that feels like a heartbeat. When you place your fingers lightly on the graft, they move slightly.

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

You cannot feel the thrill or it is weaker than it was the last time you checked it.

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

**Patient**

**“Ready, Set, Go” The Steps to Catheter Freedom**

**Weeks 2-3: New Graft Daily Check**

**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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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.**

Great! Keep checking each day. At your next treatment, tell your Dialysis Care Team that there was no change.

**Yes, a change.**

Call the contact given to you by your Dialysis Care Team. Share what you found. They will tell you what to do next.

**Week 4: New Graft Daily Check**

"Ready, Set, Go" The Steps to Catheter Freedom

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Continued..
Patient

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

**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.
- 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.

- Pulse is a slight beating like a heartbeat. Fingers placed lightly on the graft move slightly.
- The beat is stronger than a normal pulse. Fingers placed lightly on the graft rise and fall with each beat.

Continued..
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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