

**Procedure Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please follow your surgeon’s specific prep instructions prior to your procedure. He will give them to you in the office.**

**LOCATION:** Ambulatory Cardiac Unit (inside the Aultman Heart and Vascular Center)

### **WHAT TIME SHOULD I ARRIVE?**

The hospital surgical staff will call you in the afternoon the day prior to your procedure with your arrival time. The approximate time of your procedure is not known until the day before your procedure. If you will not be available at that time to receive the call, or if you don’t get a call by 4pm, please call to confirm your arrival time.

- Surgical scheduling 330-363-0254

**Please use the Bedford (6<sup>th</sup> Street) Entrance on arrival to the hospital.**

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Please review this information prior to coming to the hospital.
- If you need labwork done before your procedure, please have it done several days before your procedure. Bring your written order.
- You must have someone drive you home and stay with you overnight after your procedure, unless you are admitted to the hospital.
- Do not eat or drink anything except for sips of water with your medication(s) after 12 midnight the night before your procedure.
- Please bring all your medications to the hospital the day of your procedure. They will be sent home with you. **You will not be permitted** to take medications brought in from home while you are in the hospital.
- Other instructions \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMARY OF THE PROCEDURE:** An AV fistula or shunt is a connection between an artery and vein. It is used to provide access to hemodialysis. The dialysis machine needs blood to flow faster than a vein, but not as fast as an artery.

**WHAT TO EXPECT:** A specially trained doctor called a vascular surgeon will perform your procedure. You will be given a general anesthesia and will not be awake or feel pain during the surgery. An incision will be made in your arm.

- **Fistula:** An artery and a vein in your arm will be joined together to make a fistula.

- **Graft:** A soft tube or sometimes donated cadaver artery or vein is used to join your artery and vein.

## WHAT TO BRING TO THE HOSPITAL

- This packet of information
- A copy of your living will or durable power of attorney for health care (advanced directives) if you have one
- Any toiletry items you would like
- Bring all your current medications. **You will not be permitted** to take your home medications while in the hospital, but the nurses need the names(s) and dosage(s) of each medication
- Please **do not bring valuables** to the hospital, such as purse, wallet, jewelry, money, credit cards, etc. Bring only your ID and insurance cards.

**LENGTH OF THE PROCEDURE:** The procedure usually takes a couple of hours, but you may be in the surgical area for longer, for your surgical preparation and recovery.

**AFTER THE PROCEDURE:** You may eat and drink after your procedure

## QUESTIONS PRIOR TO YOUR PROCEDURE

Call your doctor office for any questions about your procedure.

**SCHEDULING AND REGISTRATION:** Pre-registration is required for an accurate medical record and proper billing. You may be contacted by a patient access representative if we need any information. If you have questions or need to reschedule your surgery, please call the doctor who will be doing your procedure.

## HOSPITAL PARKING

Free visitor parking is available in Lot 3 across from the Bedford Building; enter from 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Valet parking is available at the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Bedford Building entrances for a fee - or free if you are a handicapped motorist. Deck parking is available on 7<sup>th</sup> Street for a fee, based on your length of stay.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT:** Heart and Vascular Center (Lot 3 parking is the closest parking) is located on the first floor of the Bedford Building. After entering the Bedford lobby, turn to your right and enter the Heart and Vascular Center. Please sign in on the kiosk (iPad) by typing in your name and have a seat on the left side of the waiting room until you are called.