

## **WARNING SIGNS FOR GRAFTS AND FISTULAS**

1. Prolonged bleeding from access after dialysis - over 20 minutes
2. Change from a "buzz" or vibration felt over the graft or fistula to a pounding pulse
3. More than one episode of infiltration or bruising around the graft or fistula
4. Poor dialysis (insufficient clearance, recirculation) due to low flows
5. A trend toward decreasing blood flows in a graft or fistula
6. Elevated venous pressures on dialysis
7. Swelling of the hand or arm on the side of the graft or fistula
8. Development of "new veins" or popping out of old veins
9. Pain in the graft or fistula
10. Swellings in the graft or fistula
11. Changes to skin over fistula/graft – non-healing areas
12. Rapid growth – lumps/bumps of fistula

Call these signs to the attention of your nephrologist or dialysis center, or call Michigan Vascular Access **(248-355-1100)** for a prompt evaluation

Keep this reminder handy - do not discard