

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

EE-14 CHRONIC RENAL PATIENTS WITH AV SHUNTS AND FISTULAS

ALS/ILS/BLS

- DO NOT take blood pressure on an arm with a shunt or fistula
- DO NOT perform IV punctures on arm with shunt or fistula
 - Only during life saving measures may an IV be performed on the involved arm.
 - Hand vessels at this time are best indicated
- In the event a shunt is accidentally pulled out of the entrance site, the following must be done:
 - Apply direct pressure to the site of bleeding
 - Elevate affected arm
- If the shunt tubing accidently becomes disconnected:
 - Apply copper clips (should be on dressing or patient has) to end of tubing

ALS/ILS:

- IV/IO NS or LR at TKO rate
- Obtain blood samples
- If resuscitation necessary:
 - Cut doses by ½ or give small increments and give above protocol first
- Check shunt/fistula for a thrill or bruit and document on run report