

Dialysis

Vascular Access

6. Vascular access in "difficult" patients

CARI Guidelines

It is unusual that an access solution cannot be found from the available range of arteriovenous fistulae, graft sites, materials and methods of access. (level C evidence)

Clinicians should consult widely and consider non-conventional methods of vascular access in difficult patients, including long term central venous catheterisation. (level C evidence)

What is the evidence?

Patel N. Alternate approaches to central venous access. *Seminars in Interventional Radiology* 1998; 15: 325-333. A review of methods for salvaging occluded central veins, and innovative approaches to accessing "difficult venous access".

What do the other guidelines say?

DOQI: No guidelines available

BRA: No guidelines available

CSN: No guidelines available

Implementation and Audit

Percentage of patients requiring long term central venous catheters. Target range should be <10% of population

OUT OF DATE