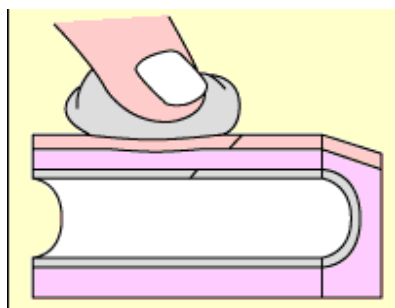


What should I do if my fistula bleeds at home? Emergency Measures

An emergency bleeding pack is provided to all patients, this contains gloves, gauze and tape and this instruction leaflet, extra supplies can be obtained from the unit on request.

If your fistula or graft starts to bleed when you are away from the dialysis unit, apply firm pressure to the bleeding point, as shown in the diagram below.

Constant pressure should be applied for 10 – 15 minutes using the gauze supplied in your pack or what is quickly available such as a clean towel.



It will be easier and more effective if your carer or family member can do this for you.

Make sure someone stays with you until the bleeding has stopped.

Elevating your arm above your head will help stop the bleeding.

If after 15 minutes, your fistula is still bleeding, you or your relative will need to call for help.

CALLING FOR HELP!

IF BLEEDING IS HEAVY AND DOES NOT STOP EASILY – THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!!

PHONE 999 IMMEDIATELY!

You will need emergency attention either in the dialysis unit or Accident and Emergency Department.

You may need emergency attention even if the bleeding stops.

The Renal Unit can be contacted during working hours.

Contact telephone numbers

Renal Unit – RSH 01743261673, 01743263170

Renal Unit – PRH 01952 641222 x 4372

Renal Unit - Ludlow 01584 872201 x 169

Renal Unit RSH - opening hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 6am until Midnight

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday – 7am until 8pm

Closed Sundays

There are many reasons why your fistula may start bleeding.

Please let your unit / dialysis nurse know of any problems you have had so that any necessary investigations can be arranged.