

A guide to the appropriate vascular access device for your chemotherapy patients



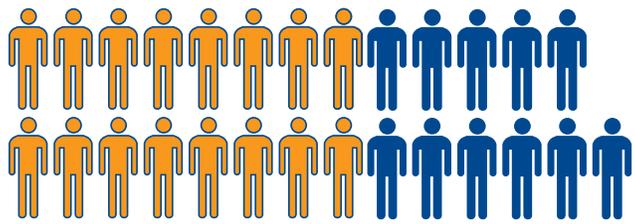
Peripheral vasculature is precious. Don't use it unless you have too.

We've created the VEINS FOR LIFE* (VFL) awareness program to demonstrate our commitment to educating patients, doctors, and nurses about the vascular access device (VAD) options currently available for chemotherapy delivery.

Did you know?

A port can take your patient from beginning to the end of treatment.

A randomly selected, blinded survey of U.S. Oncology Nurses conducted by Bard Access Systems, Inc. has shown that:



Represents 27% of patients receiving chemotherapy via peripheral I.V.¹

An estimated 27% of patients receive chemotherapy via peripheral I.V.¹

59% of patients who receive chemotherapy through a peripheral I.V. are unable to complete their therapy via peripheral I.V.¹

So what does it mean?

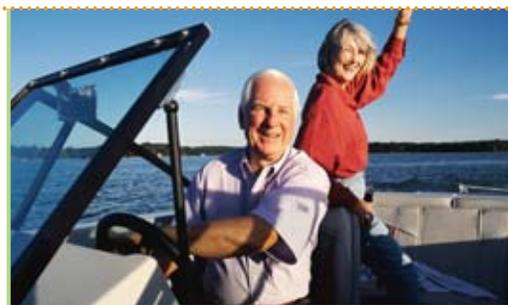
- It means that 59% of the patients could no longer receive chemotherapy treatment via peripheral I.V., most often due to inadequate vasculature¹
- Inability to access the veins can result in a delay in treatment
- A procedure for a *port* or a central line now has to be performed on an immuno-compromised patient

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Our patient-centered interactive Website was specifically created to help you and other oncology providers:

Educate patients about vascular access devices

- How *ports* work
- The decision process to use a *port*
- Patient benefits and disadvantages of using a *port* over other vascular access devices
- Potential impact on patient lifestyle and comfort
- Patient experiences with *ports*
- Frequently asked questions
- Where to find additional information and local support



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Compare research data showing the potential advantages and potential disadvantages of implanted ports vs. peripheral intravenous devices

- Maintain vascular access
- Decreased pain²
- Fewer needle sticks²
- Quicker blood withdrawals²
- Vesicant delivery³

Use of an implanted *port* carries the risks normally associated with anesthesia, surgery, and post-operative recovery. The use of a subcutaneous *port* provides an important means of venous access for seriously ill patients. Like any vascular access procedure, there is always a chance for complications with a *port* placement, like venous thrombosis, necrosis, infection, pneumothorax, and the formation of fibrin sheaths. The patient should talk to their nurse or physician about these and other risks, and whether this or other treatment delivery methods are right for the patient.

Support materials

- **VFL Vascular Access Decision Making Tool**—*Available for download*—describes the different criteria for vascular access selection: the appropriate VAD for the patient
- **Your Port Access Advantage* Oncology Education Program**—Materials you need to educate your patients on the use and advantages and disadvantages of implanted *ports*
- **VFL Patient Stories**—Video clips of patients who share their experiences on how *ports* have helped them in their therapy
- **VFL Patient Brochure**—*Available for download*—describes advantages and disadvantages of implanted *ports*

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References: 1. Bard Access Systems Blinded Mail Survey with Oncology Nurses 2008. At the request of Bard Access Systems, Inc., the Oncology Nursing Society randomly selected 1,000 names from its mailing list. From the 1,000 randomly selected names, Bard Access Systems, Inc., selected 200 names. A total of 134 surveys were received. The net response rate was 74%. Data on file at Bard Access Systems, Inc., Salt Lake City, Utah. 2. Chernecky C. Satisfaction versus dissatisfaction with venous access devices in outpatient oncology: a pilot study. *Oncology Nursing Forum* 2001;28(10):1613-1616. 3. ONS Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Guidelines and Recommendations for Practice. 2001, p.49

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