# **Best Practices: Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Surveillance**

- Vascular Access Flow
- Dialysis Adequacy
- Cardiac Function

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## **Flow-based Vascular Access Management**

## Vascular Access Surveillance

Flow-based surveillance per KDOQI Guidelines alerts a patient care team to patients at risk for underdialysis, thrombotic events and cardiac failure.

"The [HD03] allows you to proactively manage your patients as part of a multidisciplinary vascular access care program to reduce complications and costs of end-stage renal disease." Duda, CR et al, Nephrology News & Issues, 2000; 14(5).

## **Dialysis Adequacy**

Ensure adequate dose delivery by direct, accurate measurement of pump blood flow and access recirculation in AV accesses and catheters.

"Recirculation and delivered blood flow measurements provide important information about the most appropriate and effective therapies for your patients."Sands, JJ et al, ASAIO, 1996; 42(5). Depner, TA et al, ASAIO 1995; 41(3).

## **Cardiac Function**

Cardiac Output profiling with a Transonic<sup>®</sup> HD Monitor identifies patients with dangerously low Cardiac Index due to inadequate dry weight estimation.

"Integration of cardiac output measurements into an ESRD treatment program forestalls the devastating progression of cardiovascular disease." MacRae, JM et al, Am J Kid Dis 2004; 43(5).



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Transonic Systems Inc. 34 Dutch Mill Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 U.S.A. Tel: +1 607-257-5300 Fax: +1 607-257-7256 support@transonic.com

#### EUROPE

Transonic Europe B.V. Business Park Stein 205 6181 MB Elsloo The Netherlands Tel: +31 43-407-7200 Fax: +31 43-407-7201 europe@transonic.com

### ASIA/PACIFIC

Transonic Asia Inc. 6F-3 No 5 Hangsiang Rd Dayuan, Taoyuan County 33747 Taiwan, R.O.C. Tel: +886 3399-5806 Fax: +886 3399-5805 support@transonicasia.com

Transonic Systems Inc. is a global manufacturer of innovative biomedical measurement equipment. Founded in 1983, Transonic sells "gold standard" transit-time ultrasound

pressure and pressure volume systems, laser Doppler flowmeters and telemetry systems.

flowmeters and monitors for surgical, hemodialysis, pediatric critical care, perfusion, interventional radiology and research applications. In addition, Transonic provides

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Transonic Japan Inc. KS Bldg 201, 735-4 Kita-Akitsu Tokorozawa Saitama 359-0038 Japan Tel: +81 04-2946-8541 Fax: +81 04-2946-8542 info@transonic.jp

"The Transonic<sup>®</sup> Flow-QC<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitor has benefited numerous dialysis-dependent patients by reducing and, in many cases, eliminating the agony of a clotted AV graft or fistula, thereby facilitating correction of access stenoses on an elective basis that prevents missed dialyses and the need for placing temporary catheters."

Depner, T, MD, UC Davis

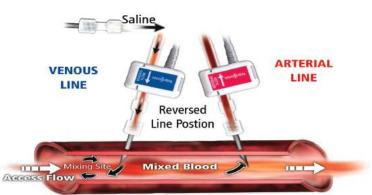
"The comprehensive cost is markedly reduced due to the decreased number of hospitalizations, catheters placed, missed treatments, and surgical interventions. Vascular access blood flow monitoring along with preventive interventions should be the standard of care in chronic hemodialysis patients."

McCarley, P et al, Kid Int 2001; 60(3).

"Transonic flow monitoring is the cornerstone of my Vascular Access Management Program (VAMP)."

Spergel, LM, MD, FACS, Dialysis Management Medical Group, San Francisco

## ULTRASOUND DILUTION TECHNOLOGY



Krivitski Method<sup>®</sup> Access Flow Measurement: Dialysis lines are reversed at their needle connections to induce recirculation through the access. Vascular access flow can then be calculated from the change in blood concentration detected by the paired flow/dilution sensors. To measure recirculation, saline is introduced into the venous line with the dialysis lines in normal position. Recirculation is calculated from the change in blood concentration between the venous sensor and arterial sensor.

# Transonic<sup>®</sup> HD03 Hemodialysis Monitor

## "Gold Standard" Surveillance



The battery-operated, portable HD03 Monitor & Flow/dilution Sensors Measure:

- Delivered Blood Flow
- Vascular Access Recirculation
- Vascular Access Flow
- Cardiac Output (optional)

Measurements take less than 10 minutes per patient. Results are displayed immediately on the Monitor.



## HD03 Features & Benefits

## HD03 Monitor

## Measurements

Performed on AV fistulas, grafts and catheters during routine dialysis.

## Easy to Use

Measurements are operator independent. Software guides user step-by-step through procedure.

## Easy Set-up

Simply clip the arterial and venous flow/dilution sensors onto the respective blood lines.

## Portable

Rechargeable battery permits easy mobility between patients.

## Safety/Infection Control

Touch-screen input prevents cross contamination. The screen can be cleaned with a dilute solution of bleach or soap.

## H4FX Flow/Dilution Sensors

Paired sensors pass ultrasound waves through dialysis tubing to measure blood flow and other parameters

- Sensors clip onto tubing connected to the patient's blood lines.
- Saline can be released directly from saline bag or infused into the dialysis circuit.

## **Administrative Software**

## Data Management

A removable Data Transfer Module can be uploaded to a computer with HD03 Administration software, and information is synchronized between the Monitor and computer.

## Powerful

- Documents and trends interventions and access history
- Generates High Risk Thrombosis "Alert" List
- Permits schedule planning
- Calculates individual patient and clinic statistics
- Displays comprehensive Patient Status Reports





The portable HD03 Monitor on a rolling stand.

www.transonic.com

## **Best Practice: Dialysis Adequacy**

Optimize efficient dialysis delivery and assess measurement of delivered pump blood flow and recirculation

#### DELIVERED BLOOD FLOW

Pump (delivered blood) flow errors and recirculation compromise dialysis delivery of a KT/V prescription. The Transonic® Hemodialysis Monitor measures true delivered blood flow through dialysis tubing using Gold Standard transit-time ultrasound technology. By comparing actual delivered blood flow to the pump's reading, any flow limiting cause such as small needle diameter or incorrect needle placement can be identified and corrected.<sup>2,3</sup> Delivered Blood Flow-QC® is used to:

- Test blood pump calibration and its "effective flow" algorithm;
- Find the cause of excessive negative arterial pressure;
- Determine the most appropriate blood pump setting for a low flow access when it is not feasible to increase access flow;
- Diagnose tubing set flow restrictions that might cause hemolysis.

## CASE REPORT: INADVERTENT REVERSAL OF BLOOD LINES

A routine Transonic<sup>®</sup> hemodialysis screening of a 41 year-old female ESRD patient reported a vascular access recirculation of 22%. The nurse reversed the blood lines and performed a second recirculation measurement. 0% recirculation registered. This demonstrated that the hemodialysis lines had been inadvertently reversed when they were initially connected for hemodialysis. The lines were left in the correct position for the duration of the dialysis session and the patient received her prescribed dialysis prescription unimpeded by inadvertent reversal of the blood lines.

## **KDOQI GUIDELINES**

"Any access recirculation is abnormal. Recirculation ... should have prompt investigation of its cause. ... If access recirculation values exceed 20%, correct placement of needles should be confirmed before conducting further studies."

http://www.kidney.org/professional/KDOQI/guideline-upHD-VA/index.htm

### AV ACCESS RECIRCULATION

With a single infusion of saline, the Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitor detects and quantifies access recirculation, a late indicator of a failing access. Because Transonic<sup>®</sup> ultrasound dilution technology can separate cardiovascular recirculation form cardiopulmonary recirculation, 0% Recirculation can be quantified.

Measurement of recirculation will:

- Identify inadvertent reversal of blood lines;
- Confirm proper needle placement;
- Confirm 0% recirculation.

### **CATHETER ADEQUACY**

Central venous catheters often under deliver dialysis due to a discrepancy between a pump's setting and its actual delivered flow and/or the presence of recirculation. The Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitor optimizes dialysis catheter delivery by:

- Establishing a maximum dialysis pump setting before recirculation occurs;
- Using known values for flow and recirculation to adjust the length of dialysis;
- Identifying flow restrictions;
- Finding the best connections between a catheter and blood lines;
- Identify failing catheters through high recirculation rates.

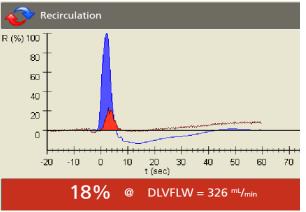


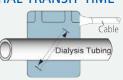
Fig. 1: Typical indicator concentration curves showing 18% access recirculation.

transonic THE MEASURE OF BETTER RESULTS.

## Best Practice: Dialysis Adequacy Cont.

## HOW IT WORKS: DIFFERENTIAL TRANSIT-TIME

A clip-on sensor transmits a beam of ultrasound through the blood line. Two transducers pass ultrasonic signals back and forth, alternately intersecting the flowing blood in



Clamp-on Flow/Dilution Sensor

upstream and downstream directions. The Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitor derives an accurate measure of the changes in the time it takes for the wave of ultrasound to travel from one transducer to the other ("transit time") resulting from the flow of blood in the vessel. The difference between the upstream and downstream transit times is a measure of volume flow.

## HOW IT WORKS: ULTRASOUND INDICATOR DILUTION (Patient Blood Flows & Recirculation)

The velocity of ultrasound in blood (1560-1590 m/ sec) is determined primarily by its blood protein concentration. The Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitor and Flow/dilution Sensors measure ultrasound velocity. A bolus of isotonic saline (ultrasound velocity: 1533 m/sec) introduced into the blood stream dilutes the blood and reduces the ultrasound velocity. The sensor records this saline bolus as a conventional indicator dilution curve.

When a bolus of saline indicator is introduced into the blood line, the arterial and venous sensors each register an indicator dilution curve (Fig. 1).

The Hemodialysis Monitor identifies the direct reflux of the venous saline indicator bolus into the arterial line (Fig. 2). The ratio of indicator concentrations equals access recirculation. High timing resolution enables identification of zero access recirculation (Fig. 3).

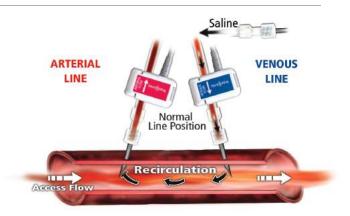


Fig. 2: Recirculation Measurement. Saline is introduced into the venous sensor with the dialysis lines in normal position. The arterial sensor measures the diluted concentration of blood from which recirculation is calculated.

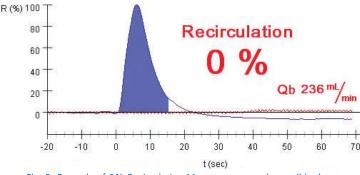


Fig. 3: Example of 0% Recirculation Measurement made possible due to the high timing resolution of the Transonic® Hemodialysis Monitor.

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#### ASIA/PACIFIC

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## Best Practice: Vascular Access Surveillance

Identify ESRD patients at risk for underdialysis, thrombotic events and cardiac failure with Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Surveillance

### FLOW-BASED ACCESS SURVEILLANCE

Access flow is the quintessential vital sign for an AV Access. Insufficient flow causes underdialysis. Still lower flow invites thrombosis. Too much flow can lead to heart problems. Each condition harbors associated morbidities.

Transonic<sup>®</sup> ultrasound dilution technology is recognized as the "gold standard" intra-access flow measurement technology for hemodialysis patient surveillance during the dialysis session. The method uses Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitors and Flow/dilution Sensors to measure access flow directly for an instant snapshot of access function. Vascular access flow measurements detect flow limiting problems wherever they occur within a vascular access.

By measuring vascular access flow routinely and trending the results over several months, a record of access patency is created (Fig. 1). A drop in access flow signals formation of a stenosis, in time for proactive minimally invasive intervention.

## KDOQI GUIDELINES: GRAFTS AND FISTULAS

- Intra-access flow measurements (such as Transonic<sup>®</sup> ultrasound dilution) are the preferred method for A-V graft and fistula surveillance.
- Low-flow Thresholds: Grafts: < 600mL/min Fistulas: 400-500 mL/min
- When access flow is less than 1000 mL/min and has decreased by more than 25% over four months, the patient should be referred for a fistulogram.

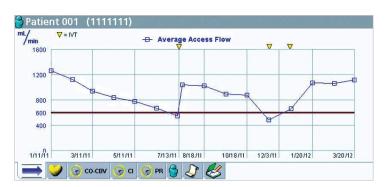


Fig. 1: Trending of vascular access flow over a one year time frame with PTA interventions noted by arrows. Several technologies can monitor low AV access flow, but only fast-response blood-line reversal indicator dilution methods can trend flow. Their fast-response capability eliminates possible error stemming from cardio-pulmonary recirculation.

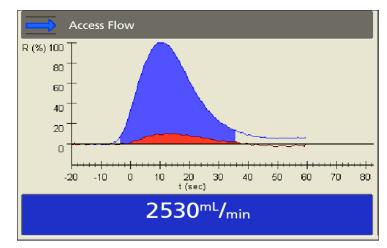


Fig. 2: Access flow measurement with the Transonic® Hemodialysis Monitor.

"Adequate blood flow in peripheral hemodialysis fistulae and grafts is vital to the success of hemodialysis and to the survival of the patient. Reduction in flow ... presages failure of the access device itself. Access flow can therefore be considered a fundamental property of the access that should be monitored." Depner, TA et al



## Best Practice: Vascular Access Surveillance Cont.

### HOW IT WORKS: ULTRASOUND INDICATOR DILUTION (Patient Blood Flows & Recirculation)

The Krivitski Method® to measure vascular access flow is a pioneering Transonic® contribution to vascular access management (Fig. 2). A saline indicator is introduced via the upstream (venous) access needle into the access flow stream. The downstream (arterial) access needle samples the blood concentration diluted by the indicator from which vascular access flow is calculated (Fig. 3).

### WHY PREVENTION OF FISTULA THROMBOSIS THROUGH ACCESS SURVEILLANCE IS WORTHWHILE

A thrombosed vascular access Is problematic for:

Dialysis Staff who need to:

- Assist patient in coping
- Arrange for transportation
- Interface between patient and physicians
- Rearrange dialysis schedule

Nephrologist who needs to:

- Console unhappy patient & family
- Arrange logistics to resolve AVF failure

#### Patient who copes with:

- Discomfort, pain, anxiety and fear
- Delay of dialysis
- Concerns about K+ and fluid
- Disruption to schedule
- Decreased guality of life

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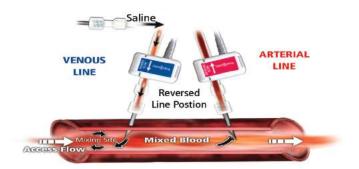


Fig. 3: Krivitski Method® Access Flow Measurement. When dialysis lines are reversed to induce recirculation, vascular access flow (Qa) can be calculated.

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Transonic Europe B.V. **Business Park Stein 205** 6181 MB Elsloo The Netherlands Tel: +31 43-407-7200 Fax: +31 43-407-7201 europe@transonic.com

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## **Best Practice: Cardiac Function**

Forestall ESRD patients' cardiovascular complications by routine clinical exams supported by hemodialysis cardiac function screening.

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in patients with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Transonic<sup>®</sup> Cardiac Function Monitoring provides a way to integrate cardiac function studies into a hemodialysis clinic's treatment protocol and forestall the devastating effects of CVD.

Transonic<sup>®</sup> Monitoring identifies:

- Dangerously high and prolonged levels of access flow (>1,600-2,000 mL/min) stress the heart causing cardiomegaly and heart failure. This can be identified by an access flow to cardiac output ratio (AVF/CO) exceeding 25-30%.
- Dangerously low cardiac output (Cl < 2 L/ min/m<sup>2</sup>) which places patients at high risk for cardiovascular complications and failure.
- 3) Dramatic 20 30% decreases of Cardiac Index during hemodialysis to dangerously low levels due to inaccurate dry weight estimation and/or inadequate medication that places patients at high risk for cardiovascular complications and sudden death following a dialysis session.
- Dangerous decreases in Central Blood Volume during dialysis that may portend hypotensive episodes.

Transonic<sup>®</sup> proprietary ultrasound indicator dilution technology measures Cardiac Output and the following derived cardiac function parameters: Cardiac Output; Cardiac Index; Peripheral Resistance; Central Blood Volume ; Central Blood Volume Index.

Central Hemodynamic Profiling (CHP) is the periodic assessment of cardiac function during the hemodialysis session in order to track the heart's response to the stress of a dialysis treatment (Fig. 2). CHP identifies patients who leave hemodialysis sessions with dangerously low cardiac indices (CI  $\leq$  2.0), that increases their risk for death, stroke or myocardial infarction.

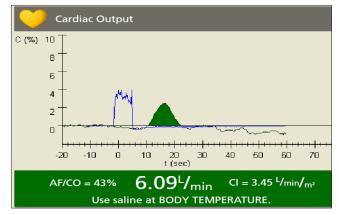


Fig. 1: Flow-QC screen reports Cardiac Output, Cardiac Index (CI) & Central Blood Volume (CBV). Software also displays Height, Weight, Heart Rate, Blood Pressure, Peripheral Resistance, Central Blood Volume Index, Systemic Cardiac Index & Stroke Volume.

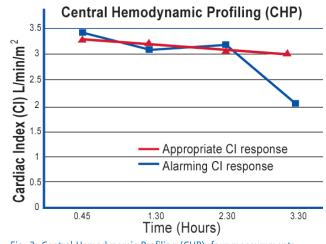


Fig. 2: Central Hemodynamic Profiling (CHP): four measurements taken during a single hemodialysis session shows Cardiac Index responses to the hemodialysis treatment. Acceptable CI results range between 2.5 - 4.2 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>. Courtesy of Dr. T. Tucker, Brunswick, GA

Cardiovascular mortality in ESRD patients, depending on age, is 10 - 500 times greater than the general population. Special Report: NKF Task Force on Cardiovascular Disease, AJKD 1999; 32(5)



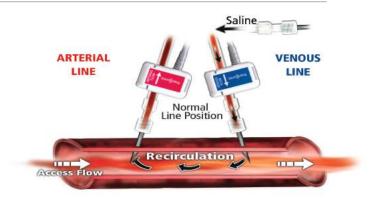
## **Best Practice: Cardiac Function Cont.**

### HOW IT WORKS: ULTRASOUND INDICATOR DILUTION (Cardiac Output)

With blood lines in the normal line position and no direct recirculation present, cardiopulmonary recirculation represents a measure of cardiac output (Fig. 3). The complete bolus of saline indicator travels into the heart where it is mixed (diluted) into the full cardiac output. Part of this diluted indicator then reappears at the Transonic<sup>®</sup> arterial sensor. Cardiac output and Cardiac Index are calculated using conventional Stewart-Hamilton analysis.

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- Fig. 3: Recirculation Measurement. Saline is introduced into the venous sensor with the dialysis lines in normal position. The arterial sensor measures the diluted concentration of blood from which recirculation is calculated.
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  - \* Numbers in parentheses () are Transonic<sup>®</sup> reference numbers.



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AMERICAS

U.S.A.

Transonic Systems Inc.

Tel: +1 607-257-5300

Fax: +1 607-257-7256

support@transonic.com

34 Dutch Mill Rd

Ithaca, NY 14850

#### EUROPE

Transonic Europe B.V. Business Park Stein 205 6181 MB Elsloo The Netherlands Tel: +31 43-407-7200 Fax: +31 43-407-7201 europe@transonic.com

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# Why Perform Surveillance?

# 7 Ways the HD03 Improves Outcomes for Your Patients



The Transonic<sup>®</sup> Gold Standard Hemodialysis Monitor Assures KDOQI Quality Compliance through:

- Dialysis Adequacy Optimization
- Vascular Access Surveillance
- Cardiac Function Assessment



# **HD03 Hemodialysis Monitor**

## Hemodialysis Adequacy Optimization

## 1. Identifies Discrepancy Between Pump Setting & Delivered Blood Flow As A Result of:

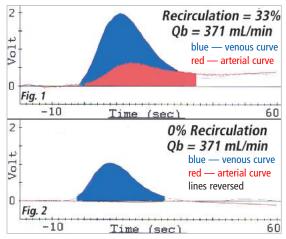
- Negative pressure effects of the roller pump
- Condition of access
- Needle size
- Needle placement

- Kinked or occluded tubing
- Calibration of dialysis machine
- Change in type of dialysis tubing
- Calibration of Transonic<sup>®</sup> Flow/dilution Sensors

## 2. Ensures Correct Needle Placement

When Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitoring first shows vascular access recirculation (Fig. 1), which disappears after the blood lines are reversed and the recirculation measurement is repeated (Fig. 2), the hemodialysis lines have been inadvertently reversed.

Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitor screenings show that dialysis occurs with the needles inadvertently reversed in more than 4% of cases.



## 3. Confirms 0 % Recirculation

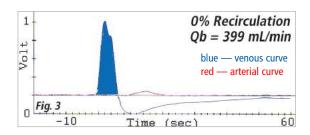
In contrast to measurement technologies that cannot separate vascular access recirculation from cardiopulmonary recirculation and, therefore, show false positives, Transonic<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitoring can separate access recirculation from the cardiopulmonary (the red curve in Fig. 3) and can report zero % recirculation.

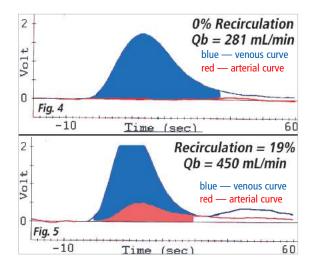
## 4. Optimizes Dialysis in Dual-lumen Catheters

Catheter recirculation is an early sign of catheter failure and usually depends on dialysis blood flow. The patient in Fig. 4 was dialysed at flows up to 300 mL/min without any recirculation. At flows higher than 300 mL/min, such as 450 mL/min shown in Fig. 5, 19% recirculation occurred.

Therefore, increasing delivered blood flow (Qb) did not proportionally increase the quality of dialysis.

Note: Discrepancies between pump flow and real delivered flow can also be more dramatic with catheters than with vascular accesses.





# **Hemodialysis Quality Assurance**

## Vascular Access Surveillance

## 5. Recirculation with Low Access Flow Detects Significant Inflow/Outflow Stenoses

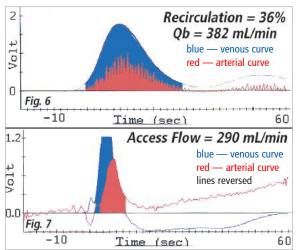
Unlike other technologies that can only identify outflow stenoses in AV accesses, HD03 Monitor surveillance can detect a stenosis wherever it occurs within the vascular access circuit: inflow, outflow or between the needles in both fistulas or grafts.

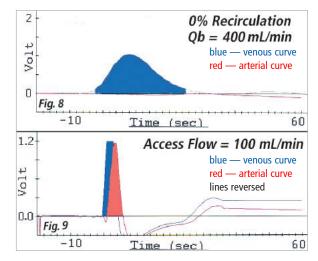
In the example on the right, access recirculation (Fig. 6), accompanied by low vascular access flow (Fig. 7), indicated the presence of a significant stenosis which was then confirmed by color Doppler and fistulogram.

## 6. 0% Recirculation & Low Access Flow Pinpoints Stenoses Between Needles

When a significant stenosis is located between the hemodialysis needles, hemodialysis pump flow simply bypasses the stenosis without producing any recirculation.

When low access flow (Fig. 9) is accompanied by 0% recirculation (Fig. 8), a stenosis between the dialysis needles can be suspected. A stenosis between the needles can be confirmed by a color Doppler image.

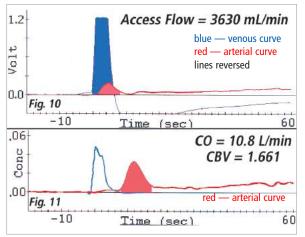




## 7. Cardiac Output Check Indicates Potential Cardiac Overload

In the case example on the right, vascular access flow measured more than 3 L/min (Fig. 10). Cardiac output exceeded 10 L/min (Fig. 11). When the vascular access was briefly occluded by the tip of the examiner's finger, the patient's pulse rate dropped from 112 to 88 per min. This patient had complained of chest pains and had been diagnosed with cardiomegaly.

The access was surgically revised by banding. Following the revision, access flow then measured 1700 mL/min. Cardiac output dropped to 7-8 L/min. The patient exhibited fewer post-dialysis hypotensive episodes, his dry weight decreased, his chest X-Ray cleared and he reported significant improvement in his previous symptoms.



## Summary: Flow-based Quality Assurance

## **Hemodialysis Adequacy**

- Tests calibration of the blood pump;
- Verifies true delivered blood flow and compares delivered blood flow to pump setting to identify flow disparity and avoid underdialysis. If disparity is significant, Flow-QC<sup>®</sup> assists in determining cause (blood pump calibration versus inflow restriction/excessive pre-pump negative arterial pressure);
- Detects and quantifies access recirculation in AV access and catheters;
- Identifies inadvertent reversal of dialysis lines to prevent recirculation and/or underdialysis;
- Determines proper needle placement;
- Identifies sources of large negative arterial blood line pressure (and its resulting underdialysis);
- Determines the most appropriate blood pump setting for a low flow access when it is not feasible to increase access flow;
- Provides delivered flow and recirculation measurements to maximize catheter function.

## **Vascular Access Measurements**

- Tells actual function in AV grafts and fistulas in order to identify failing accesses and avert underdialysis and/or thrombosis;
- Indicates effectiveness of interventions (post-intervention surveillance) or limb ischemia;
- Excludes access dysfunction quickly as cause of underdialysis;
- Identifies a mid-access obstruction;
- Identifies high-flow versus low flow accesses to select ideal treatment plan for correction (flow-restricting versus re-vascularization procedure);
- Permits access surveillance to be performed by the clinic's staff who then can alert nephrologist to possible onset of access dysfunction & referral for early intervention
- Implements KDOQI Guidelines;
- Implements Best Practices for patient care with Gold Standard reference method.



AMERICAS

Transonic Systems Inc. 34 Dutch Mill Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 U.S.A. Tel: +1 607-257-5300 Fax: +1 607-257-7256 support@transonic.com

#### EUROPE

Transonic Europe B.V. Business Park Stein 205 6181 MB Elsloo The Netherlands Tel: +31 43-407-7200 Fax: +31 43-407-7201 europe@transonic.com

#### ASIA/PACIFIC

Transonic Asia Inc. 6F-3 No 5 Hangsiang Rd Dayuan, Taoyuan County 33747 Taiwan, R.O.C. Tel: +886 3399-5806 Fax: +886 3399-5805 support@transonicasia.com

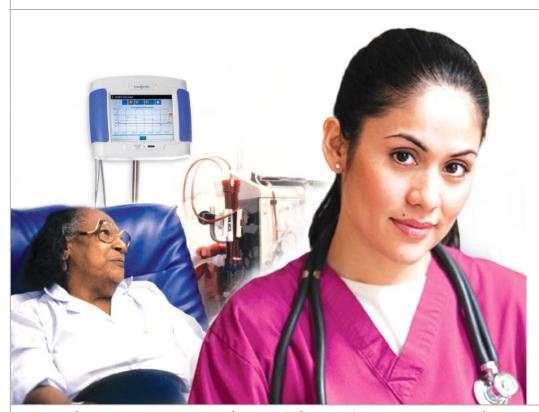
Transonic Systems Inc. is a global manufacturer of innovative biomedical measurement equipment. Founded in 1983, Transonic sells "gold standard" transit-time ultrasound

pressure and pressure volume systems, laser Doppler flowmeters and telemetry systems.

flowmeters and monitors for surgical, hemodialysis, pediatric critical care, perfusion, interventional radiology and research applications. In addition, Transonic provides

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THE MEASURE OF SOLUTION DETER RESULTS.

#### **AMERICAS**

Transonic Systems Inc. 34 Dutch Mill Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 U.S.A. Tel: +1 607-257-5300 Fax: +1 607-257-7256 support@transonic.com

#### EUROPE

Transonic Europe B.V. Business Park Stein 205 6181 MB Elsloo The Netherlands Tel: +31 43-407-7200 Fax: +31 43-407-7201 europe@transonic.com

#### ASIA/PACIFIC

Transonic Asia Inc. 6F-3 No 5 Hangsiang Rd Dayuan, Taoyuan County 33747 Taiwan, R.O.C. Tel: +886 3399-5806 Fax: +886 3399-5805 support@transonicasia.com

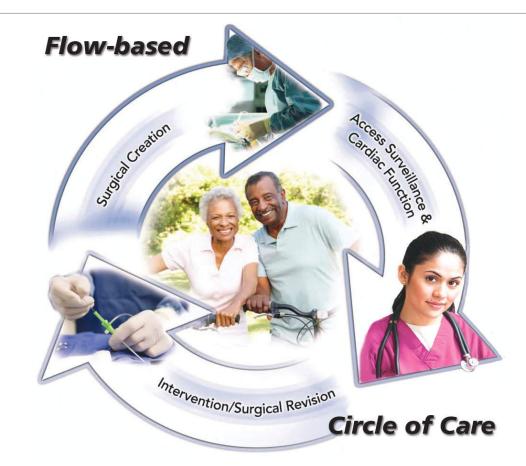
Transonic Systems Inc. is a global manufacturer of innovative biomedical measurement equipment. Founded in 1983, Transonic sells "gold standard" transit-time ultrasound

flowmeters and monitors for surgical, hemodialysis, pediatric critical care, perfusion,

interventional radiology and research applications. In addition, Transonic provides pressure and pressure volume systems, laser Doppler flowmeters and telemetry systems.

#### JAPAN

## Vascular Access Management "A Circle of Care<sup>®</sup>"



Proactive vascular access management depends upon a trio of Transonic<sup>®</sup> flow measurements that guide the surgeon, the nephrologist and the interventionalist throughout the natural history of a vascular access.

- Surgical creation of AV access: Transit-time ultrasound (intraoperative) flow measurements foretell successful maturation.
- During hemodialysis: Transonic<sup>®</sup> ultrasound dilution measurements provide ongoing surveillance and trending to detect development of hemodynamically significant stenoses.
- Intervention/Revision: When an access problem is identified, intragraft flow measurements guide the interventional radiologist during percutaneous transluminal angioplasty (PTA). Intraoperative flow measurements guide surgical revisions to resolve complications such as "steal" syndrome.



# Vascular Access Management

## AV Access Creation, Surveillance

## Access Creation: Intraoperative Blood Flow Measurements

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Fistula First Break-through Initiative's success has transformed the hemodialysis access in the United States from a "graft-oriented culture" to a "fistula-oriented culture." Since 2012 more than 60% of American hemodialysis patients have AV fistulas.<sup>1</sup> Yet, the number of fistulas that do not mature (estimated to be between 28-50%)<sup>2</sup> continues to confound and challenge the hemodialysis care provider.

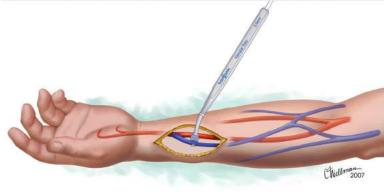


Fig. 1: Measuring arteriovenous (AV) fistula venous outflow with Transonic<sup>®</sup> Perivascular Flowprobe.

In his landmark 1998 study in Surgery, Johnson *et al* reported that for an AV fistula to mature, a venous outflow equal or greater than 100 mL/min at its creation is advised. For an AV prosthetic graft, an initial venous outflow of less than 250 mL/min is associated with a higher rate of initial graft failure.<sup>3</sup> As the access matures and arterializes, flow generally increases to levels needed for hemodialysis (greater than 500 mL/min). To ensure adequate flow for hemodialysis, Transonic<sup>®</sup> intraoperative blood flow measurements provide the surgeon with quantitative flow values during creation of the access (Fig. 1). Johnson and others report that intraoperative blood flow rates at access creation directly correlate to access outcomes including: patency, number of interventions, and length of hospital stays.

"Adequate blood flow in peripheral hemodialysis fistulae and grafts is vital to the success of hemodialysis and to the survival of the patient. Reduction in flow ... presages failure of the access device itself. Access flow can therefore be considered a fundamental property of the access that should be monitored." Depner, TA et al,

# "A Circle of Care®"

## Intervention and Revision

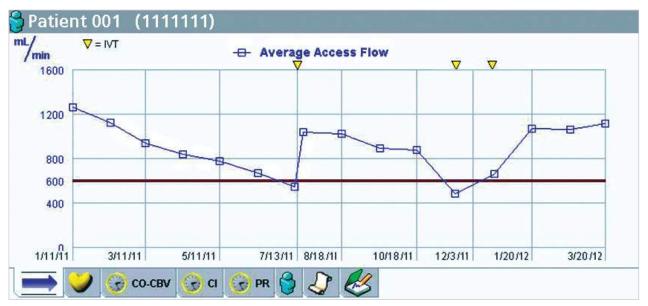


Fig. 2: Trending of vascular access flow over a one year time frame with PTA interventions noted by arrows.

## Hemodialysis: Surveillance

The Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) Clinical Practice Guidelines for Vascular Access and the National Kidney Foundation codified Dr. Depner's advocacy of access flow monitoring by stating "prospective surveillance of AV grafts and fistulas for hemodynamically significant stenosis, when combined with correction, improves patency and decreases the incidence of thrombosis."<sup>5</sup> Canadian, Australian and European Guidelines also call for surveillance during hemodialysis to forestall stenosis formation and prolong the life of the access. Intra-access measurements (ultrasound dilution technology) are cited as the preferred method for surveillance.

Transonic's ultrasound dilution technology is recognized as the "gold standard' intra-access flow measurement technology for hemodialysis patient surveillance.<sup>6</sup> The method uses Transonic Flow-QC<sup>®</sup> Hemodialysis Monitors and Flow/dilution Sensors to directly measure dialysis adequacy (delivered blood flow, recirculation) for on-the-spot correction of problems during hemodialysis and to trend vascular access flow to detect flow limiting problems wherever they occur in a vascular access (Fig. 2). Cardiac output and associated parameters can also be measured with this tecnology during the dialysis treatment.

## Vascular Access Revision Intra-graft Flow Measurements

During angioplasty, a Transonic<sup>®</sup> ReoCath<sup>®</sup> Flow Catheter and Endovascular Flowmeter provide the interventionalist with immediate flow feedback (Fig. 3)<sup>7</sup> for quantitative confirmation that a hemodynamically significant stenosis has been corrected or that elastic recoil has not compromised the flow correction.





## Intraoperative Flow Measurements

When surgery is the access revision option, intraoperative flow measurements inform during the revision. Transonic<sup>®</sup> quantitative measurements replace guesswork especially when an access needs to be banded to mitigate ischemic steal syndrome.

## Conclusion

In the outcomes-driven climate of proactive end-stage renal disease (ESRD) care, Transonic<sup>®</sup> quantitative flow measurements are integral to successful and comprehensive vascular access management. During creation of the access, during hemodialysis and/or during interventions or revisions, respective Transonic<sup>®</sup> flow measurements inform and guide the surgeon, nephrologist and/or interventionalist as they seek to create and maintain a healthy access for their patients. Transonic<sup>®</sup> flow-based "Circle of Care" is a cornerstone for proactive Vascular Access Management.

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Transonic Systems Inc. is a global manufacturer of innovative biomedical measurement equipment. Founded in 1983, Transonic sells "gold standard" transit-time ultrasound flowmeters and monitors for surgical, hemodialysis, pediatric critical care, perfusion, interventional radiology and research applications. In addition, Transonic provides pressure and pressure volume systems, laser Doppler flowmeters and telemetry systems.

### AMERICAS

Transonic Systems Inc. 34 Dutch Mill Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 U.S.A. Tel: +1 607-257-5300 Fax: +1 607-257-7256 support@transonic.com

### EUROPE

Transonic Europe B.V. Business Park Stein 205 6181 MB Elsloo The Netherlands Tel: +31 43-407-7200 Fax: +31 43-407-7201 europe@transonic.com

### ASIA/PACIFIC

Transonic Asia Inc. 6F-3 No 5 Hangsiang Rd Dayuan, Taoyuan County 33747 Taiwan, R.O.C. Tel: +886 3399-5806 Fax: +886 3399-5805 support@transonicasia.com

### JAPAN