



# **Vasc-Alert User's Guide**

# Vasc-Alert Users Guide

The Vasc-Alert Online Application provides an easy and secure way to view information on your patients, download reports, and upload treatment run data to Vasc-Alert. The Vasc-Alert Online Application runs inside your web browser, so no software needs to be downloaded or installed.

**Important:**  
**The Vasc-Alert System is not a diagnostic tool.**

The reports issued by Vasc-Alert should be considered only as prompts for the appropriate medical personnel to examine patients more closely using traditional methods such as physical examination of the access site, or angiogram. The use of Vasc-Alert does not replace the need to monitor dialysis patients according to the standards already in place at your center.

Federal law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a licensed health care practitioner.


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Download the [Vasc-Alert User's Guide](#) in PDF format



## Logging In

To get to the Vasc-Alert Online Application, start at the regular Vasc-Alert web site <http://www.vasc-alert.com> and click on the Customer Login link on the top bar.

 If you have not received your user name and password from Vasc-Alert, please contact [support@vasc-alert.com](mailto:support@vasc-alert.com).



When the login screen appears, enter your name and password, then click "Accept Terms and Login".  
Forgotten your password? [Read on...](#)



**Vasc-Alert Online User Login**

**User Login**

Please enter your username and password, then press login.

username:

password:

**VASC-ALERT TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE**  
**PLEASE READ THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE CAREFULLY BEFORE USING THIS SITE.**

By CLICKING "ACCEPT TERMS AND LOGIN" you represent that you are an employee or authorized agent of a Vasc-Alert Customer. You agree that you are an authorized user of the Vasc-Alert service and have been granted access to this web site knowing that it contains confidential public health information as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and its implementing regulations (45 C.F.R. Parts 160-64) ("HIPAA") to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of Protected Health Information. You agree to use this site to perform data submission or retrieval on behalf of your employer. You agree that you will not use this site in any manner that is illegal and will not introduce,

## Resetting your Password

If you have forgotten your password, or want to change it to something that is easier for you to remember, you can now take care of this yourself without having to contact Vasc-Alert support. The first time you enter an incorrect password, or leave the password field empty, a warning message shows up on the login screen. The second time, the login screen will display a link for you to reset your password.

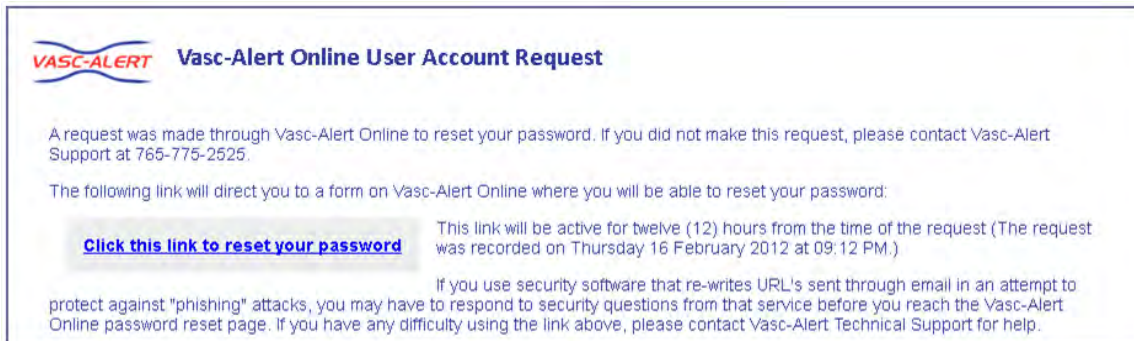
Have you forgotten your password? [Request password reset by clicking here](#)

Enter your user name (login) and your email address which must match the email address we have on record for you.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Request Password Reset" with the Vasc-Alert logo at the top. Below the title, it says "Enter your user name and email address to request a reset of your password." There are two input fields: "username:" with a placeholder "user name" and "email:" with a placeholder "email address". A "Request Password Reset" button is located at the bottom right of the form.

Next, check your email for a message from Vasc-Alert support. Part of the email is shown below.



Follow the link in the email to a web page where you can reset your password. Please note that the link in the email will only work for 12 hours, and you can only use it once.

When you follow the link, you will arrive at the password reset page.

Our password policy is displayed on the right of the screen. The password you create must:

- be at least six characters long
- contain upper and lowercase letters
- contain at least one number
- user name and password cannot be the same

The page includes some randomly generated passwords that you can use if you do not want to make up your own password.

## Getting Around- some general tips

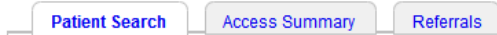
The menu bar and navigation bar appear at the top of every page.

### The Menu Bar



The menu bar contains these choices:

- Patient Data**  
 Click on this option to search for and work with your patients.



For more information, see the sections on [Patient Search](#), [Access Summary](#), and the [Referral Module](#).

For more

- Files**  
 Click on this option to go to the [Files](#) page where you can access reports no longer available on the Home page.
- Support**  
 Click on this option to get to the [Support](#) page.

The logout link is on the right side of the Menu bar.



**Don't forget to log out when you are done!**  
**IMPORTANT:**

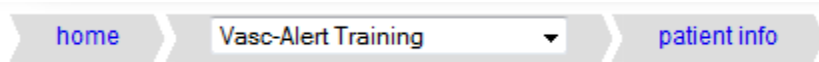
If you share your computer with others, or if it is in a public area, you should log-out when you are done with your session. And, when you log-in, make sure that the checkbox next to 'Save my password on this computer' is unchecked. Taking these steps will help you to ensure that others will not have unauthorized access to Protected Health Information (PHI.)

### The Navigation Bar



The navigation bar shows you where you are and how you got there. The first section will always take you back to the home page. The second section shows which center you are working with. If you have access to more than one center, you will need to select one of them before you can do anything except download reports on the home page.

As you move through the system, the navigation bar will add more sections:



You can access previous pages by clicking the links on the navigation bar. Use of the back button on your browser is not recommended as security features built into the site may prevent you from displaying pages you visited earlier.

Next: [The Home Page](#)

## The Home Page

The screenshot shows the Vasc-Alert web application interface. The browser address bar indicates the URL is <https://www.vasc-alert.com/VA/WebC>. The page is titled "Vasc-Alert Training Facility 3" and shows the user is logged in as "Oliver Twist".

The main content area is divided into five numbered sections:

- Patients on alert:** A table listing patients with their names, MRNs, and alert counts. The table includes columns for "name", "alerts", and "most recent alert".
- Quick Search:** A search box for "Patient Name or MRN" with a "search" button.
- Files for Download:** A list of recent reports with dates, including "VA WeeklyRep\_VATRAINS\_20130612093833\_10" and "VA\_MgmtRep\_VATRAINS\_20130605140802\_1001".
- Upload Files:** A form for uploading data files, with a "Browse..." button and an "Upload" button.
- News and Announcements:** A section for updates and news, including a notice about the latest release of Vasc-Alert reports.

The home page includes these areas:

1. The Patients on alert area shows a list of all patients on alert during the last month. This is the same information that appears in the two Alert Lists that are part of the weekly report package. If you are responsible for more than one center, you will have to select the one you want from the navigation bar.

Clicking on the name of a patient in this list will take you directly to the [Patient Detail report](#) for the patient. For more information about the Patients on alert list, see [Who is on Alert?](#)

2. The Quick Search area lets you search for a patient from the home page, without having to go through the general Patient Search page. You can search for a patient by name or by MRN.
3. The Files for Download area gives you access to the reports and other files available for you to download. When you receive an email from Vasc-Alert telling you that new reports are available for download, this is where you will find them. For instructions, see [Downloading Reports](#). For details about the different reports, see [Vasc-Alert reports](#).

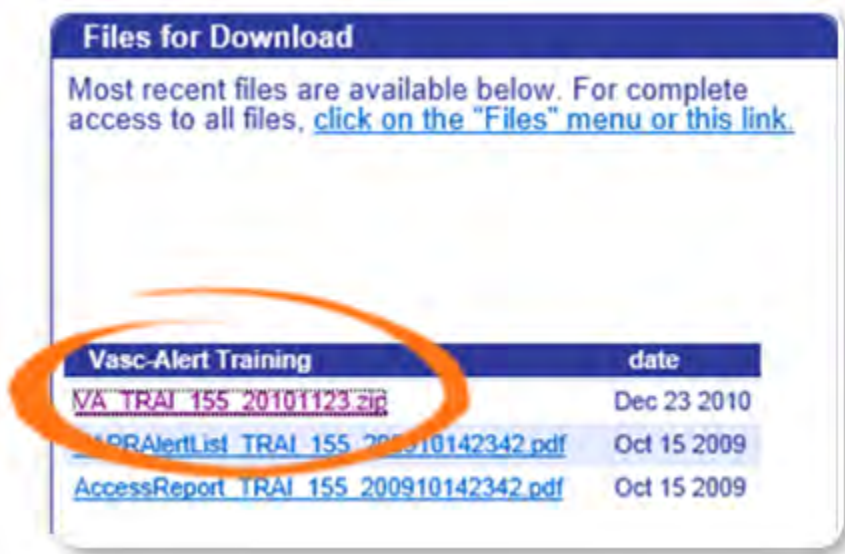
The Home Page gives access to the five most recent files for all centers you are responsible for. If you need to download older files, you should go to the Files page by clicking on the FILES link in the menu bar.

4. The Upload Files area is for sending treatment run and lab files to Vasc-Alert for processing. If you are responsible for more than one center, you will have to select the one you want from the navigation bar before you can use this feature. For instructions, see [Uploading Treatment Files to Vasc-Alert](#)
5. News and Announcements



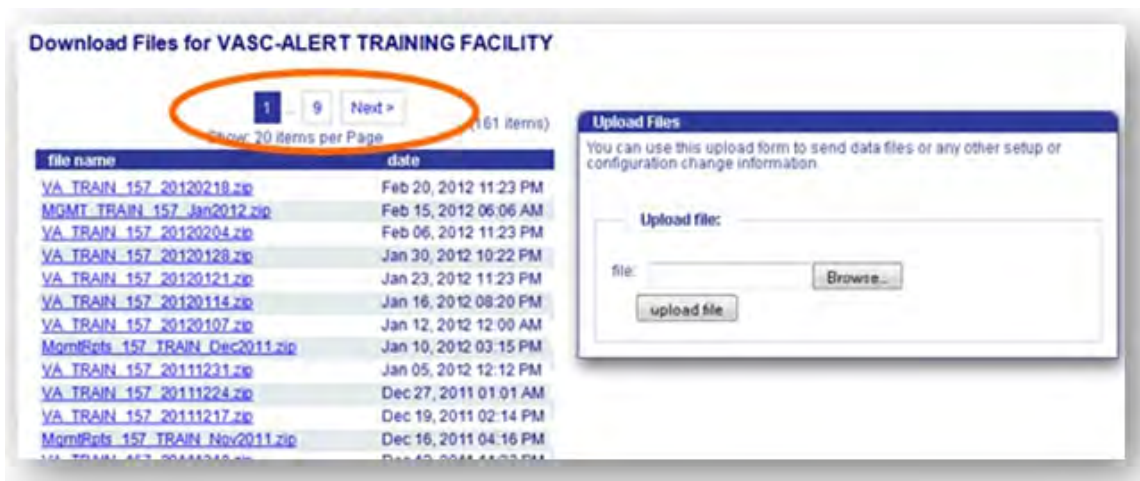
## Downloading Reports

You can download reports and other files from two locations. The "Files for Download" area of the Home Page shows the most recent sets of reports.



If you need to download earlier files which are no longer on the Home Page, click on **FILES** in the main navigation bar. This takes you to a page where you can access your previous reports (depending on your start date), going back to 2009. Use the navigation buttons indicated to browse through all the pages in the list. You can also upload files to us from this page.

Clicking on the name of a file or set of reports starts. Usually a message pops up, asking you if you want to save or open the file. Because Vasc-Alert reports contain PHI (private health information), we **strongly recommend** that you save the file to a safe location on your hard drive or network before opening it.



## Vasc-Alert reports

### Weekly reports

There are five reports which are generated on a weekly basis:

- Patients with VAPR alerts in the past 30 days
- Patients with AAPR alerts in the past 30 days
- Patients on alert in the past 30 days
- Patients not on alert in the past 30 days
- Weekly access report

### Monthly Management Reports

The Vasc-Alert management reports provide an upper-level view of the center results. These reports are generated on a monthly basis. While the weekly reports give information about specific patients, the management reports are designed to let you monitor trends in center performance. These reports contain information for the prior six months.

Management reports for the prior month are generated in the first full week of the next month.

- Monthly Management Reports: Access Type Distribution
  - Monthly Management Reports: Patients on Alert by Month
  - Monthly Management Report: Blood Flow Rate Deviation Report
-




## Weekly VAPR and AAPR Alert Lists

The weekly **VAPR Alert List** shows the patients who have been issued at least one VAPR (Vascular Access Pressure Ratio) alert within the time frame defined at the top of the report. A patient appears on the alert list when he/she has had three consecutive treatments with VAPR results above the defined threshold. The threshold is 0.55 for both fistula patients and graft patients.

Patients highlighted in yellow have had alerts since the last reports were issued. The report also shows the date of the two most recent alerts and the number of alerts within the past 90 days. The number of alerts within the past 30 days is shown in red to the left of the name.

If an alert has been issued, a clinician should try to determine the cause of the elevated pressure reading, rule out any correctable cause of pressure elevation, and then refer the patient for intervention if necessary.

The AAPR Alert List is similar to the VAPR alert list but shows patients who had AAPR (Arterial Access Performance Ratio) alerts. The AAPR threshold is 0.65 for fistula patients and 0.60 for graft patients.



**VASC-ALERT TRAINING CENTER : Patients With Venous Alerts**  
 venous alerts occurring between 2010-10-22 and 2010-11-21 / 28 patients in this report : 28 with alerts since the last report ( 2008-07-24 )

This report shows the number of venous alerts, defined as three high VAPR values on consecutive treatments, for all patients receiving at least one venous alert during the time range shown at the top of the report. A high VAPR value is one that is greater than the threshold defined at the time of the treatment. The VAPR thresholds are 0.55 for fistula patients and 0.55 for graft patients.  
 An alert should be considered an indication that the patient should be examined more closely by medical staff trained in detecting stenosis. The report also shows the date of the two most recent venous alerts, and the number of venous alerts for each patient for the thirty ( 2010-10-22 ), sixty ( 2010-09-22 ) and ninety days ( 2010-08-23 ) prior to this report date ( 2010-11-21 ). New activity since the last venous alert report is shown to the left of the patients' names.

activity name since 2008-07-24	mrn	access, gauge	most recent venous alert	previous venous alert	# alerts 0-30 days	# alerts 31-60 days	# alerts 61-90 days
alert #1 AHL, ALEXANDRIA	VA-9732NDAAH	Fistula, 15	11/21/10	09/30/10	1	2	1
alert #1 APUZZI, HIEDI	VA-8926TCHAP	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	11/11/10	10/09/10	1	3	3
alert #1 BATRES, CORNELL	VA-2945HMCBA	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	11/03/10	10/01/10	1	2	2
alert #3 BATTERMAN, BOBBI	VA-2499XEBBA	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	11/17/10	11/10/10	3	3	3
alert #2 BOUGHNER, GERTRUDIS	VA-9598SSGBO	Fistula, 15	11/10/10	11/03/10	2	1	2
alert #5 CARRIZO, JENIFER	VA-7926IKJCA	Fistula, 15	11/21/10	11/15/10	5	2	3
alert #2 CASACCHIA, DELFINA	VA-8934TSDCA	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	11/17/10	10/29/10	2	1	-none-
NEW CILANO, DEBRAH	VA-4719SFDCJ	Fistula, 15	11/03/10		1	-none-	-none-
alert #2 CRUM, PEI	VA-2944QSPCR	Fistula, 15	11/15/10	11/05/10	2	4	1
alert #3 DECORTE, ANGELES	VA-8449TGADE	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	11/16/10	11/09/10	3	4	3
alert #4 KAPPELER, LAWRENCE	VA-3938IWLKA	Fistula, 15	11/17/10	11/10/10	4	-none-	-none-
alert #3 KIM, ROLANDO	VA-8655CCRKI	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	11/16/10	11/04/10	3	1	2
alert #1 LACK, HILDA	VA-1917KCHLA	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	10/28/10	10/07/10	1	1	4
alert #2 MASOOD, DEBORA	VA-8248IUDMA	Graft Loop Arterial Inner, 15	11/19/10	11/10/10	2	2	3
alert #2 MASTRIANNA, EDGAR	VA-8132SKEMA	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	11/15/10	11/08/10	2	1	3
alert #1 MEZICK, HSIU	VA-7848CSHME	Graft Loop Arterial Outer, 15	11/19/10	10/16/10	1	2	2
alert #1 MITCHELL, FAE	VA-1586SSFMI	Graft Loop Arterial	11/12/10	10/06/10	1	1	1

VASC-ALERT TRAINING CENTER : venous alerts occurring between 2010-10-22 and 2010-11-21  
 venous alert report generated: November 23rd, 2010 1:00 PM by Vasc-Alert, LLC 3000 Kert Ave. W. Lafayette, IN 47906

page 1

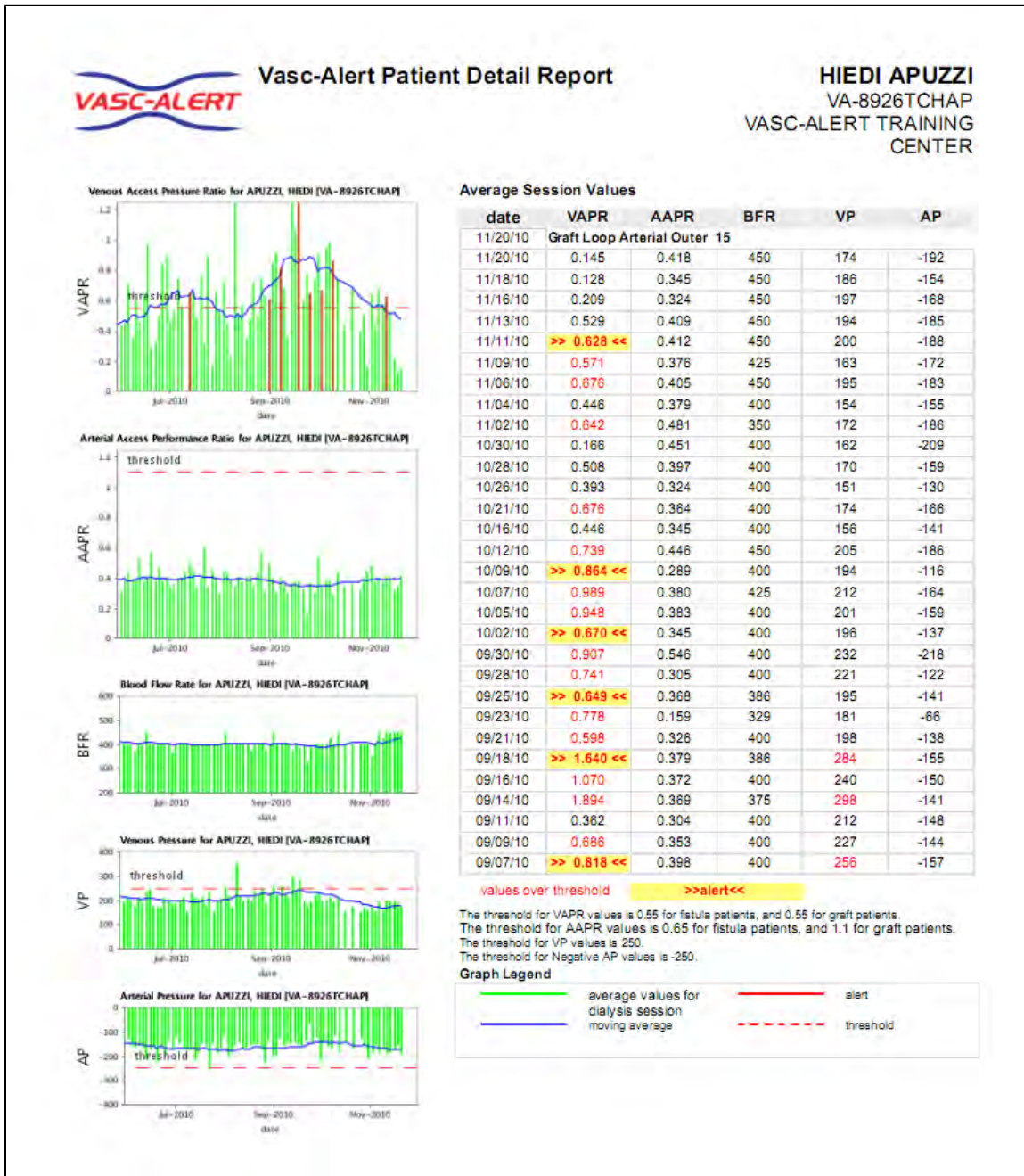
# Weekly Patient Detail Reports

## Patients on Alert and Patients not on Alert

Vasc-Alert issues two sets of **Patient Detail** reports. One set covers patients who have been issued a VAPR or AAPR alert within the previous 30 days. The Patient Detail reports make it easy to identify patients with increasing trends or consistently elevated VAPR or AAPR values, so timely referrals can be made.

The second set of Patient Detail reports includes the rest of your patients. Even though a patient has not had a recent alert, the clinical staff may want to review the report to identify early trends before the patient moves onto the alert list. Staff can also review other non-alerting patients that they may have concerns about for other indicators of potential problems such as a drop in blood flow rate.

Each patient's report has five graphs, showing 6 months of data for VAPR and AAPR calculations, average session blood flow rate, average session venous pressure and average session negative arterial pressure. A moving average is displayed on top of the actual values, to make trending easier to see. Alerts on the top two graphs are indicated with red vertical lines. The table on the right side of the report shows the numeric values for the most recent 30 treatments.



## Weekly Access Report

The **Weekly Access Report** lists the accesses for every patient that we have received data on within the defined one month time frame located at the top of the report. This data reflects what was sent to us from your EMR. The report allows you to review each patient to find those with incomplete or missing access data so that you can update the information in your EMR. This ensures that Vasc Alert is receiving the most up-to-date information about patient accesses, and it can assist you in improving the accuracy of your medical records.



### VASC-ALERT TRAINING CENTER: Access Report

Accesses recorded for 1 month period ending 2010-11-21

#### Access Summary

(based on most recent access reported for each patient)

access type	15	16	17	NO GAUGE	total
Fistula	24	18	1	1	44
Graft Loop Arterial Inner	2				2
Graft Loop Arterial Outer	24	1	1		26
Graft Straight	2				2
Tunneled Catheter	1			21	22
<b>total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	

#### Patient Access Recent History Detail

patient name [mrn]	date	access type	venous gauge
ABAUNZA, TOI[ VA-9643QETAB]	2010-11-20	Fistula	15
AHL, ALEXANDRIA[ VA-9732NDAAH]	2010-11-19	Fistula	15
APUZZI, HIEDI[ VA-8926TCHAP]	2010-11-20	Graft Loop Arterial Outer	15
BATRES, CORNELL[ VA-2945HMCBA]	2010-11-05	Graft Loop Arterial Outer	15
BATTERMAN, BOBBI[ VA-2499XEBA]	2010-11-19	Graft Loop Arterial Outer	15
BELDING, ANDREE[ VA-8699NLABE]	2010-11-20	Tunneled Catheter	NO GAUGE
BEVILAQUA, MITCHELL[ VA-3592IDMBE]	2010-11-19	Fistula	16
BLINN, ALEX[ VA-3729SDABL]	2010-11-20	Tunneled Catheter	NO GAUGE
BOENSCH, WEN[ VA-9466OEWBO]	2010-11-20	Graft Straight	15
BOSSART, DEVORA[ VA-7294HMDBO]	2010-11-19	Tunneled Catheter	NO GAUGE
BOUGHNER, GERTRUDIS[ VA-9598SSGBO]	2010-11-19	Fistula	15
BRAKEMAN, HANK[ VA-2894TTHBR]	2010-11-20	Tunneled Catheter	15
CALABRIA, JOLYNN[ VA-3959SBJCA]	2010-11-20	Tunneled Catheter	NO GAUGE
CARRIZO, JENIFER[ VA-7926IKJCA]	2010-11-19	Fistula	15
CASACCHIA, DELFINA[ VA-8934TSDCA]	2010-11-17	Graft Loop Arterial Outer	15
CATANZARITE, TATIANA[ VA-5812XKTCA]	2010-11-19	Tunneled Catheter	NO GAUGE
CAWTHORNE, MOLLIE[ VA-6729XNMCA]	2010-11-19	Fistula	16
CHEAIRS, DOYLE[ VA-1942MBDCH]	2010-11-19	Fistula	16
CHIEVES, CHERILYN[ VA-6293HSCCH]	2010-11-20	Graft Loop Arterial Outer	15
	2010-11-06	Tunneled Catheter	NO GAUGE



## Monthly Management Reports: Access Type Distribution

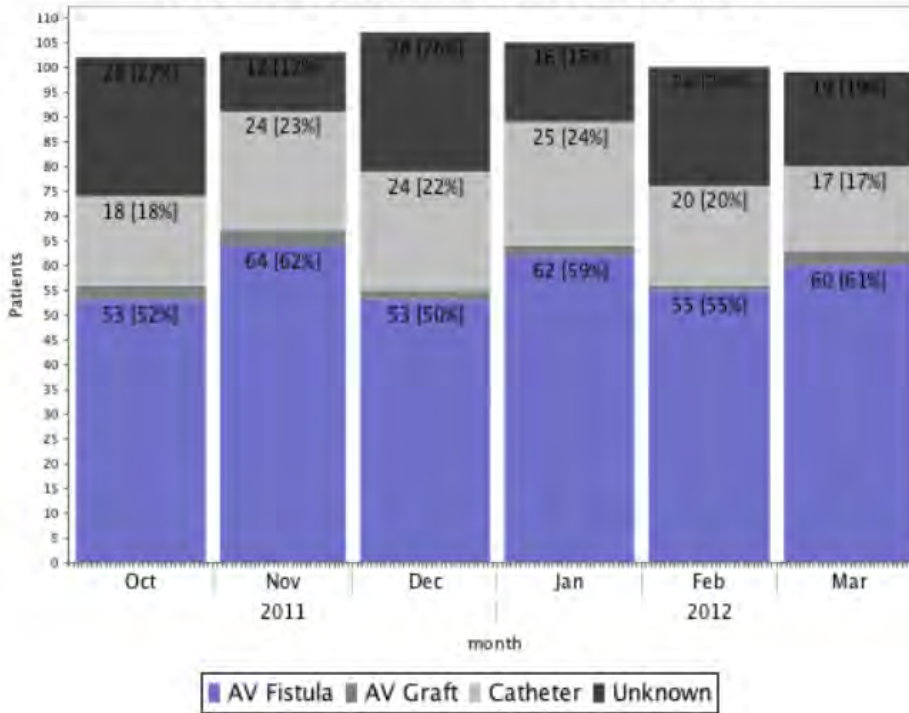
The **Access Type Distribution Report** shows the number and percentage of patients using different types of access: AV fistula, AV graft, and catheter. You can use this report to monitor progress towards the goal of increasing the number of patients using fistulas. If the percentage of patients on catheters rises suddenly, that can be a trigger to look more closely at what may have changed inside the center.



### Access Type Summary Vasc-Alert Training 6 month period ending March 2012

This report summarizes the number and percentage of patients by access type within a dialysis facility over time. This report is completed at the end of each month.

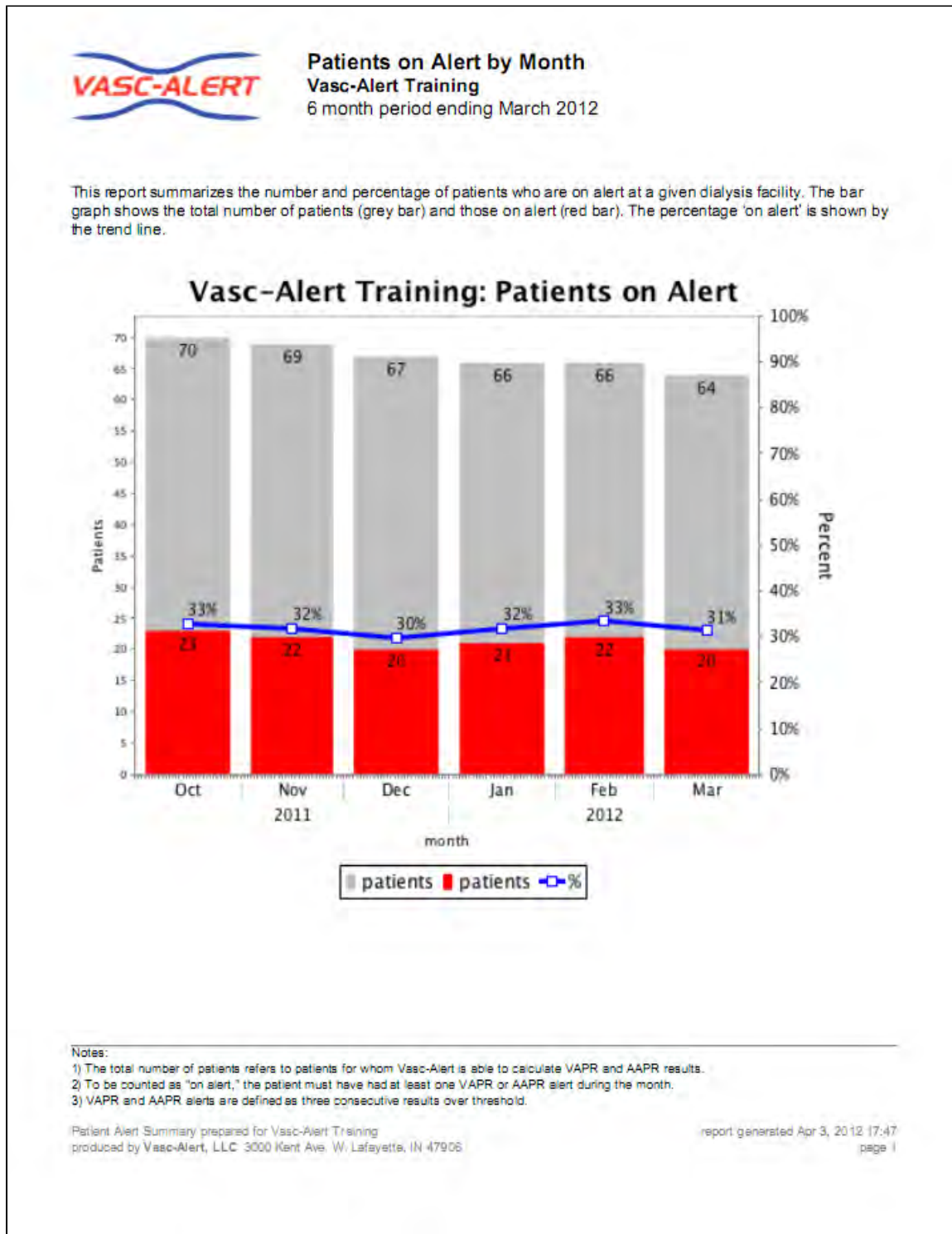
### Vasc-Alert Training: Access Types



## Monthly Management Reports: Patients on Alert by Month

The **Patients on Alert by Month Report** indicates by percentage the number of patient who received an alert in the past 30 days. Ideally, this report will show a gradual decline in the percentage, although the percentage will level out at some point. Continued high values may indicate that patients are not being referred for intervention.

**Note:** Centers with a small number of patients can show a lot of variation from one month to the next if even one or two patients change their alert status.



## Monthly Management Report: Blood Flow Rate Deviation Report

If the data uploaded to Vasc-Alert includes the prescribed BFR, you will also receive the **Blood Flow Rate Deviation Report**. This report compares the prescribed blood flow rate with the achieved blood flow rate for each patient. Patients are ordered by the percentage of difference between prescribed and actual rates during the most recent month.



### Average BFR Compared to Prescribed BFR

Vasc-Alert Training

March 2012

This report shows the average blood flow rate (BFR) as it compares to the Prescribed BFR for the month. The report is sorted by percentage of deviation of the average from the Prescribed. Vasc-Alert calculates the average BFR for each session from the treatment run data received. The average noted on this sheet is the average for all the treatments in the month. Note that the Prescribed BFR listed is from the the last session recorded, however the average BFR takes into account any changes in Prescribed made during the month.

patient name [mrn]	prescribed bfr	average bfr	deviation from prescribed bfr
DORIS, CELESTE [ VA-54621LBD137]	500	320.50	-36%
BECKERS, ROBERTO [ VA-6318411KED0352]	500	325.67	-35%
LEGGs, TWANA [ VA-99663L9D56C]	500	328.21	-34%
LOVETINSKY, JESTINE [ VA-15475LDCBFE]	400	269.52	-33%
POINELLI, MALCOM [ VA-86363L2BD64]	500	336.96	-33%
BERNDT, DARRICK [ VA-35853L9236B]	500	337.56	-32%

## Working Online

While many facilities choose to download and print reports, all of the same information is available for online viewing. If your organization sends treatment run data to Vasc-Alert on a daily basis, the information available online will also be analyzed and updated daily.

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- [Who is on Alert?](#)
- [Finding a Patient: the Patient Search Page](#)
- [Diving Deeper: the Patient Detail Report](#)
- [Reviewing Current Patient Accesses](#)



## Who is on Alert?

[home](#) Vasc-Alert Training

### Patients on alert: Vasc-Alert Training

The following is a list of patients at Vasc-Alert Training with alerts in the last month.

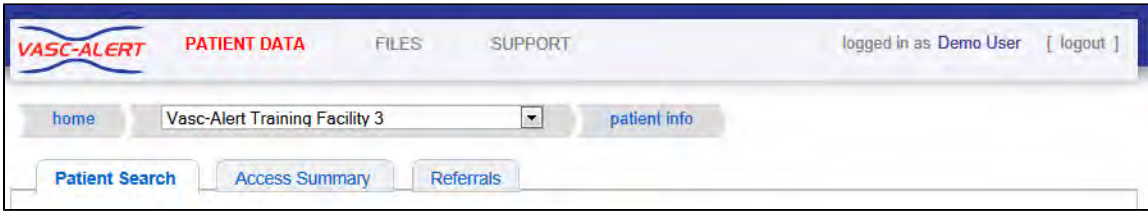
name [mrn]	most recent alert:	alerts in the past 30 days:
<a href="#">BELA, NISHA [VA-19561L6c226]</a>	01/31/12	3
<a href="#">BELFLOWER, LIONEL [VA-91515Lca8f4]</a>	01/27/12	4
<a href="#">CERNI, BOBBY [VA-66714L442bb]</a>	02/01/12	2
<a href="#">CHAPLEAN, KATHE [VA-83961Lbb0af]</a>	02/15/12	1
<a href="#">COZZY, ARLINDA [VA-16363L4b305]</a>		

The list of patients on alert (whether on the venous or arterial side) appears on the left side of the home page. A patient with four or more alerts in the previous 30 days will be displayed in a pink bar. A patient with three alerts will have the date and number of alerts highlighted in red.

Clicking on the patient's name will take you directly to their Patient Detail report.

## Finding a Patient: the Patient Search Page

You can search for a particular patient and also review information about a number of patients at the same time on the Patient Search screen. Click on **PATIENT DATA** on the menu bar at the top of the screen, and then click on the Patient Search tab if it is not already displayed.



You can adjust the number of patients in the list using the options above the list on the left:



You can also browse through the pages using the controls above the list on the right:

You can search for a patient by name or by medical record number (MRN.) To search by name, enter all or part of a patient's first or last name to search. To search by MRN, you must enter the **complete value**. In the example below, typing THE found both HOMEWOOD,THELMA and KUETHER, DESIREE. To find Thelma Homewood by MRN, we would have to enter VA-897744C44D.

### Filtering the Patient List

By default, the Patient Search page displays patients who have had treatments during the past month. You can change the date range as needed, or include only patients with a particular access type or needle gauge.

**Filter Patient List**

Patient (name/mrn):

patients with treatments between:  and

Access Type:  Fistula  Graft  Catheter  Unknown

Needle Gauge:  14  15  16  17  none

Show patients with treatments at Vasc-Alert Training Facility 3 only.

name [mrn]		recent activity											
<b>HOMEWOOD, THELMA</b> [VA-897744C44D] AV Fistula 15	date	08/03/12	08/02/12	07/30/12	07/28/12	07/26/12	07/24/12	07/21/12	07/19/12	07/16/12	07/14/12	07/12/12	07/10/12
	vapr	0.425	0.700	0.454	0.437	0.352	0.511	0.464	0.548	0.404	0.463	0.565	0.454
	aapr	0.442	0.349	0.404	0.377	0.402	0.411	0.389	0.426	0.393	0.427	0.422	0.423
<b>KUETHER, DESIREE</b> [VA-72944294DD7] AV Fistula 15	date	08/03/12	08/01/12	07/30/12	07/27/12	07/25/12	07/23/12	07/20/12	07/18/12	07/16/12	07/13/12	07/11/12	07/09/12
	vapr	1.581	0.321	0.082	0.162	0.888	1.290	0.167	0.167	0.288	0.159	0.336	0.336
	aapr	0.385	0.404	0.411	0.421	0.413	0.379	0.427	0.456	0.383	0.424	0.414	0.454

Each patient on the list shows their treatments ordered from most recent on the left side to least recent on the right, The average VAPR and AAPR results for every treatment (where available.) Values above threshold appear in red text and alerts appear in white against a red background. Treatments where Vasc-Alert was unable to calculate a result will appear as \*\*\*.

<b>BEU, GERALYN</b> [VA-69854LE1A36] AV Fistula 14	date	04/16/12	04/13/12	04/11/12	04/10/12	04/09/12	04/06/12	04/04/12	04/02/12	03/30/12
	vapr	0.790	0.815	0.937	0.343	1.017	0.768	0.853	1.147	0.822
	aapr	0.287	0.244	0.207	0.212	0.225	0.211	0.249	0.250	0.265



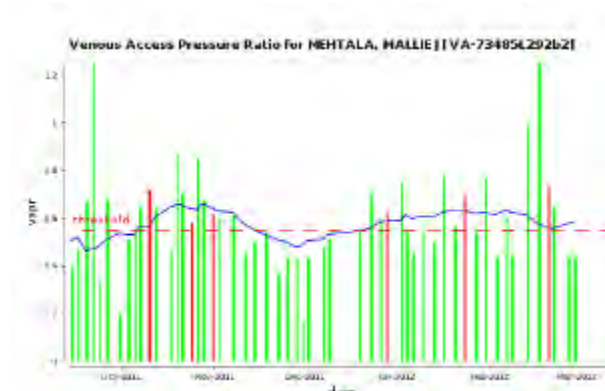
Clicking on the patient's name will take you to the Patient Detail report for the patient. To create a referral for the patient, click on the options button next to the patient's name. See [Integrating Access Events into the Patient Record](#) for information on creating referrals and recording other access events concerning your patients.

## Diving Deeper: the Patient Detail Report



The Patient Detail report includes graphs with 6 months of VAPR and AAPR results, as well as session averages for blood flow rate, venous pressure, and negative arterial pressure.

The session average for each dialysis session is shown as a vertical green bar. Dates with alerts are shown with vertical red bars. For help in trending, a moving average is displayed as a blue line on each graph. Threshold values appear as dotted red lines.



Results for the past 30 sessions appear in the Average Session Values table on the right side of the screen, with the latest treatments at the top of the table.

Average Session Values						
(54 encounters)						
← Prev 1 2 Next →						
date	VAPR	AAPR	BFR	VP	AP	
02/29/12	FISTULA 14					
02/29/12	0.434	0.391	443	180	-176	
02/27/12	0.440	0.368	445	181	-166	
02/22/12	0.650	0.427	440	204	-192	
02/20/12	0.740	0.268	375	231	-115	
02/17/12	1.852	0.277	279	245	-60	
02/13/12	0.992	0.310	376	247	-118	
02/08/12	0.446	0.352	446	200	-154	

You can access older treatments by using the Navigation Buttons



## Viewing Encounter Details

Clicking on the date of a treatment on the Patient Detail report displays the Encounter Details page. The Encounter Detail page shows information about every reading during the treatment.

Access Type: AV Graft  
 Access Location: Arm (Left lower)  
 Venous Needle 15  
 Gauge:  
 Arterial Needle  
 Gauge:  
 Average VAPR: 0.472  
 Average AAPR: 0.425  
 Average VP: 184  
 Average AP: -173  
 Average BFR 400  
 Prescribed BFR 400.0  
 Observations:

time	minute	vapr	aapr	map	bp	vp	-ap	bfr	pump speed	hct
11:13 AM	0	0.503	0.400	106.333	175/72	190	-160	400		0.361
11:30 AM	17	0.454	0.425	117.667	189/82	190	-170	400		0.361
12:00 PM	47	0.655	0.425	81.667	163/41	190	-170	400		0.361
01:00 PM	107	0.447	0.400	119.667	135/112	190	-160	400		0.361
01:30 PM	137	0.313	0.475	107.000	159/81	170	-190	400		0.361
02:00 PM	167	0.459	0.425	94.667	144/70	180	-170	400		0.361
02:17 PM	184	0.645	0.475	67.333	88/57	180	-190	400		0.361
03:00 PM	227	0.357	0.450	93.667	121/80	170	-180	400		0.361

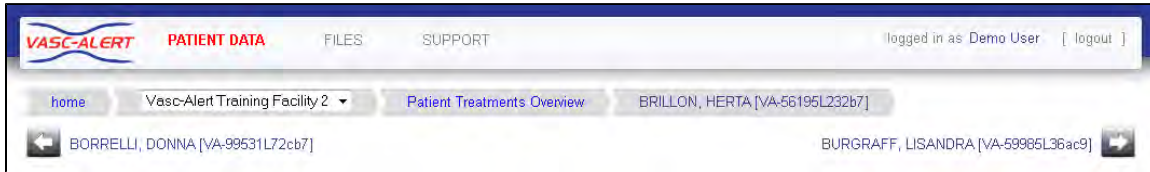
Clicking on the date next to a referral on intervention also brings up the relevant details.

**i Did you know...**  
 You can look at the details for treatments belonging to catheter patients, too. The easiest way to find a catheter patient is from the [Patient Access Summary](#). Click on the patient's name to bring up the patient detail report. Click on the date of a treatment to see the details.

## Moving between Patients

The top of the Patient Detail report shows the names of the previous and next patients in the list, along with arrow keys. Click on an arrow or patient name to browse forwards or backwards through your patients without having to return to the list each time.

Note: The "next" and "previous" patient depend on which list you were on when you accessed the first Patient Detail report. If you were clicked on a patient in the Alert List, you will browse through other patients from the Alert List. If you were on the Patient Search screen, you will browse through whatever other patients were in the search screen.



## Reviewing Current Patient Accesses

When you click on **PATIENT DATA** in the navigation bar at the top of the screen, you will see two tabs, labeled “Patient Search” and “Access Summary.” Click on the “Access Summary” to see a list of your patients and their most recent access information.

**Patient Access Summary for VASC-ALERT TRAINING FACILITY 3**

(59 patients) ← Prev 1 2 3 Next →

name [mrn]	date	access/gauge
<a href="#">AGRICOLA, AUBREY [VA-276434AC14]</a>	Aug 03, 2012	AV Fistula 15
<a href="#">ARENDALL, CATARINA [VA-419932665EB]</a>	Aug 03, 2012	AV Fistula 15
<a href="#">BAKES, IONA [VA-995355EACE]</a>	Aug 03, 2012	AV Fistula 15
<a href="#">BATTIATA, ELEONORA [VA-96716252F1D]</a>	Aug 03, 2012	AV Graft 15
<a href="#">BELTRAME, FOREST [VA-389848FC5C]</a>	Aug 03, 2012	CVC Catheter 0 ?
<a href="#">BOONE, TYREE [VA-91565D8FC9]</a>	Aug 03, 2012	CVC Catheter
<a href="#">COUTO, KATHALEEN [VA-761372DE444]</a>	Aug 03, 2012	AV Fistula <MISSING NEEDLE GAUGE>
<a href="#">COURTON, LAN [VA-191262E3DBE]</a>	Aug 03, 2012	AV Fistula 15

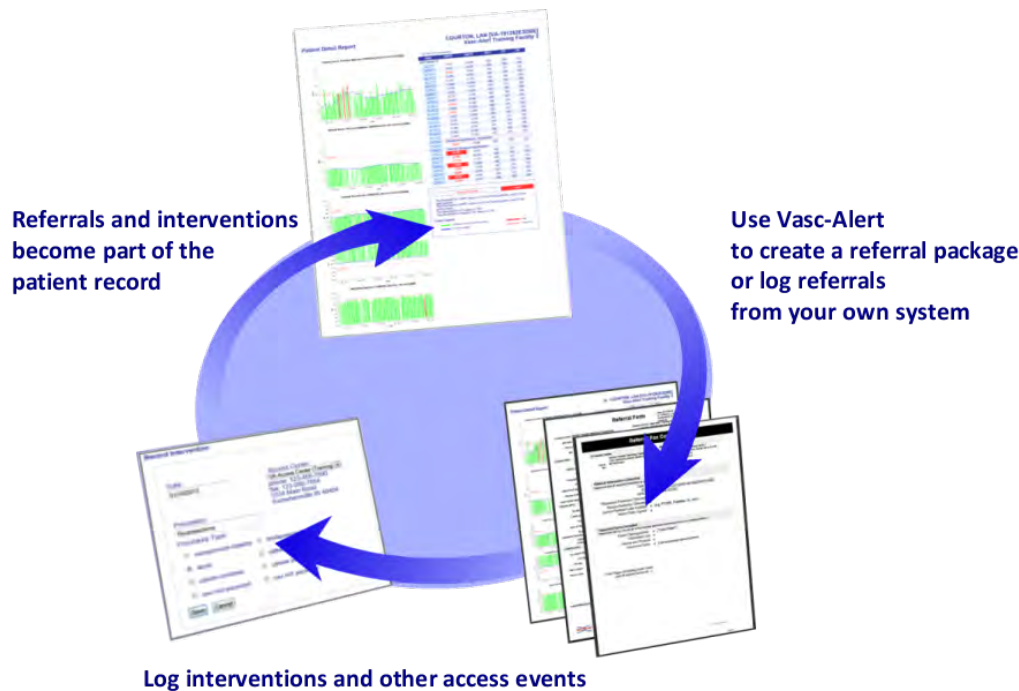
Next to each patient is a list of all access types recorded for the patient during the last month. The last date the patient used that access is shown for each entry. A question mark indicates an unexpected value, such as a catheter with a gauge or a missing access. It is also easy to see which AV patients are missing needle gauge values.

**Remember:** Missing or inaccurate information can prevent you from getting full value from Vasc-Alert, so take a moment whenever you log in to make sure that this information is being kept as current as possible. If you find an error, it must be fixed in your Electronic Medical Record system.

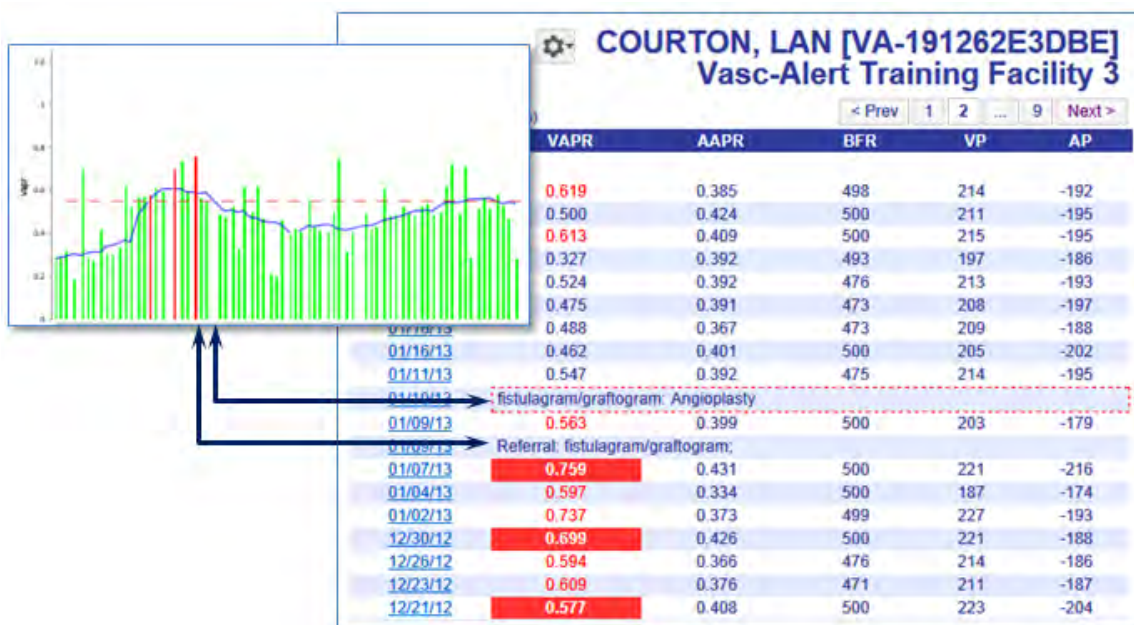


## Integrating Access Events into the Patient Record

Vasc-Alert provides a suite of tools to integrate additional information into the patient record. By logging referrals and interventions you complete the cycle begun when you review the reports. You can also include notes about the access or about individual treatments.



Referrals, interventions and other access events logged into Vasc-Alert appear in the online Patient Detail report as part of the patient's record, enhancing tracking and analysis. Incorporating this information into the Vasc-Alert record ensures that clinical staff examining future results will have access to the patient's prior access history.

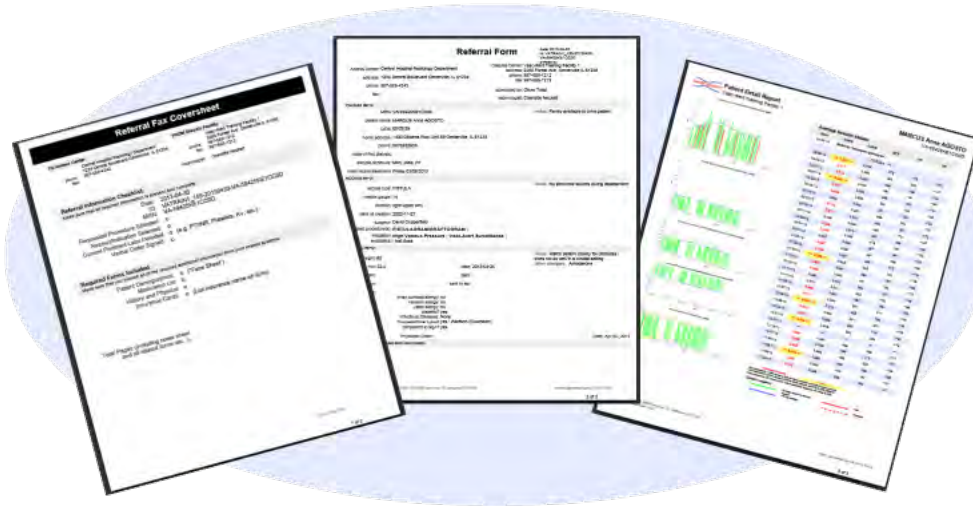


## The Vasc-Alert Referral Module

Facilities that do not have an existing system for creating referrals can generate them directly from Vasc-Alert using the **Vasc-Alert Referral**



**Module.** The Referral Module provides a convenient way for you to generate referrals for your patients without having to leave Vasc-Alert. The module creates an online form prepopulated with patient information. When you have finished filling in the referral form, the module creates a referral package consisting of a fax cover sheet, the online form, and the most recent Patient Detail report. You can then fax the report to the Access Center, Radiology Department or Surgeon, or send it with the patient.



[Download a sample referral package](#) (PDF format)

When you create a referral, it is listed in the online Patient Detail report. This gives you the opportunity to check the effectiveness of the intervention by looking for changes in VAPR, AAPR, and in the average blood flow rate, venous pressure and arterial pressure. The referral can also be accessed from the Referrals List.

[Find out more about the Referral Module](#)

### Logging referrals from your own system

Your facility may already be working with an existing system for creating referrals. If this is the case, you may still want to log a few basic facts about referrals using the **Quick Form**. By adding a few notes about these referrals. These also appear in the Patient Detail report, and in the Referrals list.

[Find out more about logging referrals from other systems](#)

### Logging interventions and other access events

To provide a complete history of the access, you can also add information about interventions and other access events to the Vasc-Alert record. Intervention information can be added directly from the referral form, or entered independently and linked to the referral later.

[Find out more about how to log interventions and access events](#)

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#### Related Topics:

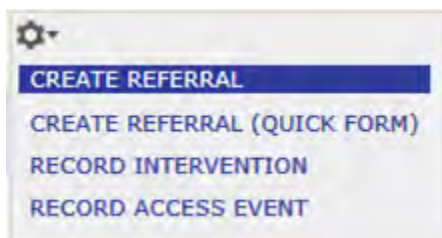
- [Getting Started: Tools for Working With Referrals and Interventions](#)
  - [Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module](#)
  - [Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems](#)
  - [Working with Existing Referrals](#)
  - [Logging Interventions](#)
  - [Logging Other Access Events](#)
-

## Getting Started: Tools for Working With Referrals and Interventions

All options for creating new referral packages and logging previous referrals and interventions can be found on the **Tools menu**, which looks like a gear. You can find the Tools menu next to the patient name on the Patient Search page and the Patient Detail page.



The menu displays these choices:



- **Create Referral** takes you to the Referral Module where you can generate a referral package.
- **Create Referral (Quick Form)** takes you to the form where you can log a referral that has already taken place.
- **Record Intervention** takes you to a form where you can log an intervention  
**TIP:** You can also log interventions from the related referral.
- **Record Access Event** takes you to a form where you can log additional information about the access that might be useful for the patient record.

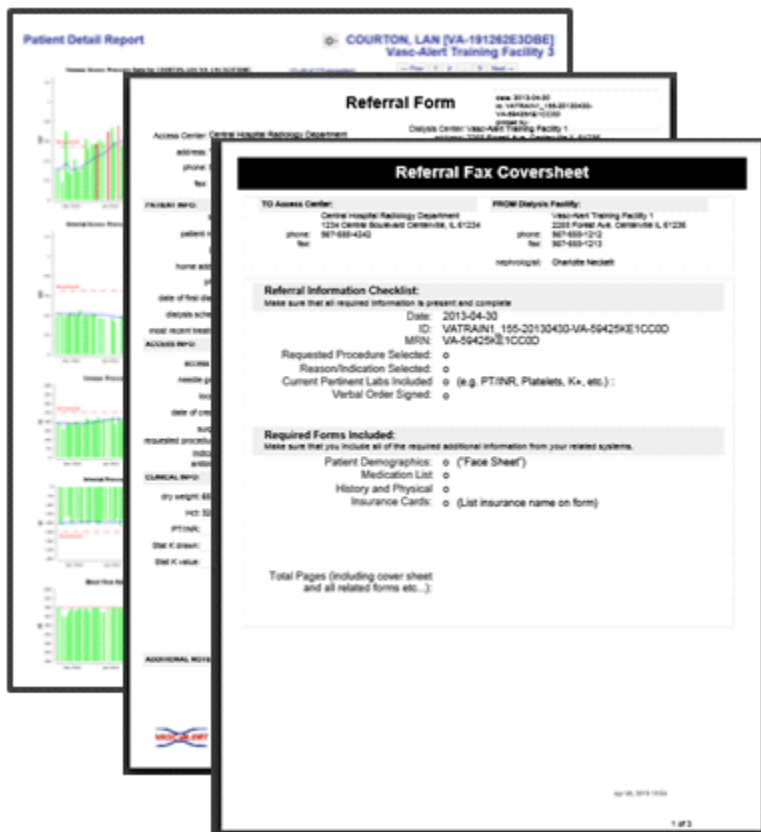
Instructions for using each of these options appear in related pages.

### Related Topics:

- [Getting Started: Tools for Working With Referrals and Interventions](#)
- [Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module](#)
- [Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems](#)
- [Working with Existing Referrals](#)
- [Logging Interventions](#)
- [Logging Other Access Events](#)

## Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module

The Vasc-Alert Referral Module provides a convenient way for you to generate referrals for your patients without having to leave Vasc-Alert. The module creates an online form prepopulated with patient information. When you have finished filling in the referral form, the module creates a printable version which includes a copy of the Patient Detail report and a fax cover sheet. You can then fax the report to the Access Center, Radiology Department or Surgeon, or send it with the patient.



[Download a Sample Referral Package \(PDF\)](#)

When you create a referral, it appears in the online Patient Detail report. This gives you the opportunity to check the effectiveness of the intervention by looking for changes in VAPR, AAPR, and in the average blood flow rate, venous pressure and arterial pressure.

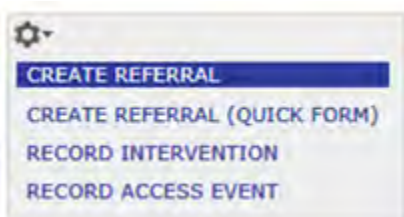


**Note**

If your facility already has a system for generating referrals, you should read [Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems](#).

**To get started...**

Starting on Patient Search page, the Create Referral section of the home page, or inside the Patient Detail page, click the Tools menu button. Select the "CREATE REFERRAL" option.



A new referral form opens. Some of the fields will be pre-filled based on information already in Vasc-Alert.

## Filling out the form

The referral form has areas for you to enter different kinds of information:

- Name, location and phone number of the doctor, hospital department or access center where the intervention will be performed.
- Basic patient information including name, MRN, address and phone number, date of first dialysis, and other items.
- Access information, including type and location, and date of creation. This is also where you will specify the requested procedures and the indications.
- Clinical information such as most recent hematocrit and factors that should be taken into account like diabetes.
- Information about your dialysis facility

Notes can be added to the right of each section. Additional space to enter notes appears when needed.

Vasc-Alert will prefill a lot of the patient information based on the patient's history.



### Made a mistake?

If you need to edit the information in a referral, or delete it completely, you can do this from the Referral List. See [Working with Existing Referrals](#) for more information.



### You must include the following information before you can save the referral:

- Name of the nephrologist
- Patient address
- At least one indication for the referral
- The procedure being requested by the referral
- Whether the patient has an X-Ray contrast allergy
- Whether the patient has a heparin allergy
- Whether the patient has a latex allergy
- Whether the patient is diabetic
- Whether the patients is taking Coumadin or any other lytic agents
- Whether the patient is competent to sign

## Generating and printing the referral package

When you are finished with the form, click on the **save referral form for printing** button at the bottom of the online form. Vasc-Alert creates a referral packet which includes a fax cover sheet, the referral form and a copy of the most recent Patient Detail report.

[Download a Sample Referral Package \(PDF\)](#)

Use the **Print Referral Form** button to print out the fax cover sheet, referral form and Patient Detail report.

**Confirm and Print Referral for LAVONA LISOWSKI [VA-893152B768D ]**

[return to patient info](#) Print Referral Form

**Referral Fax Coversheet**

<p><b>TO Access Center:</b></p> <p>VA Access Center (Training) 1234 Main Road Sumwhereville, IN 40404 phone: 123-456-7890 fax: 123-098-7654</p>	<p><b>FROM Dialysis Facility:</b></p> <p>Vasc-Alert Training Facility 3 2345 Lincoln Way Stanley, IN 40403 phone: 2234 Smith Rd fax: 777-888-9999 nephrologist: Madeline Bray</p>
---	---

**Referral Information Checklist:**  
Make sure that all required information is present and complete

Date: 2013-06-27  
ID: VATRAIN3\_10012-20130627-VA-893152B768D

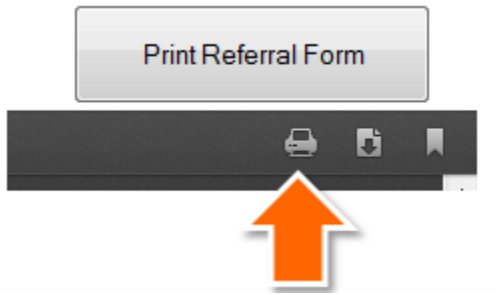
You can also print the package through the print icon on the PDF toolbar. The Internet Explorer browser displays the PDF toolbar when you move your mouse to the bottom of the page:



### Other options for printing



If you use the Firefox browser, the toolbar is under the "Print Referral Form" button:



**Please note:** Using the "print" option under your browser's File menu will not print the package correctly.

Clicking "return to patient info" will take you back to the page you were on before creating the referral.

To print out additional copies, see [Working with Existing Referrals](#).

---

**Related Topics:**

- [Getting Started: Tools for Working With Referrals and Interventions](#)
  - [Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module](#)
  - [Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems](#)
  - [Working with Existing Referrals](#)
  - [Logging Interventions](#)
  - [Logging Other Access Events](#)
-

## Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems

The referral Quick Form is used to log referrals that have been created in another system so that they become part of the Vasc-Alert record. To streamline this process, only a minimum of information is required. The option is available from the Tools menu next to the patient's name in the Patient List, on the Patient Detail report, and in the Create Referral section of the home page. The form can also be used to log a related intervention, if it has already occurred.

**Note:** If you want to use the Vasc-Alert Referral Module to create a complete referral package for printing a new referral, see [Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module](#).

The Quick Form was designed to record basic information about the referral, including date, at least one indication, nephrologist, requested procedure and access center. If the access center is not already available in the drop-down list, you can enter the name, address and phone number, and it will be saved. (Click screen below to see full size)

The screenshot shows the Vasc-Alert web interface. At the top, there are navigation links for PATIENT DATA, FILES, and SUPPORT. The user is logged in as Oliver Twist. The main heading is 'Referral for NORENE Anne MCMORRIES [VA-59425KE1CC0D]'. Below this, there are tabs for General Info, Patient Detail (selected), Clinical Detail, and Intervention. The form includes the following fields and options:

- Date:** 06/24/2013
- Nephrologist:** Bayham Badger
- Scheduled by:** Oliver Twist
- Requested Procedure:**
  - DECLLOT
  - NEW AVF PLACEMENT
  - NEW AVG PLACEMENT
  - REVISION TO EXISTING AV ACCESS
  - CATHETER PLACEMENT
  - CATHETER REMOVAL
  - CATHETER EXCHANGE
  - FISTULAGRAM/GRAFTOGRAM
  - VENOGRAM/VEIN MAPPING
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Access Center:** VA Access Center (Training)
- Phone:** 123-456-7890
- Fax:** 123-098-7654
- Address:** 1234 Main Road, Summerville, IN 40404
- Indication:**
  - CLOTTED ACCESS
  - STEAL SYNDROME
  - NON-MATURING FISTULA
  - INFILTRATION
  - HIGH VENOUS PRESSURE
  - FLOW SURVEILLANCE
  - VASC-ALERT SURVEILLANCE
  - PROLONGED BLEEDING
  - DIFFICULT CANNULATION
  - RECIRCULATION
  - SWOLLEN EXTREMITY
  - ANEURYSM
  - DECREASED KTV
  - DECREASED URR
  - CHANGE IN BRUIT OR THRILL
  - INFECTION
  - CATHETER DYSFUNCTION
  - INABILITY TO ACHIEVE PRESCRIBED BFR
  - CHANGE TO USABLE AV ACCESS

At the bottom of the form, there are buttons: Save, Save and Print, Download Referral PDF, Delete Referral, and Cancel.

After you click "Save," you may continue to add information to the referral, or enter information about a subsequent intervention using the other tabs. You can also delete the referral record entirely.

When you have finished working with the Quick Referral form and saved it, click on the **Patient Treatments Overview** link above the patient's name or on the **Patient Data** link in the navigation bar.

**Related Topics:**

- [Getting Started: Tools for Working With Referrals and Interventions](#)
  - [Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module](#)
  - [Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems](#)
  - [Working with Existing Referrals](#)
  - [Logging Interventions](#)
  - [Logging Other Access Events](#)
-



## Working with Existing Referrals

Once you have created a referral, you can use the Referrals list to work with it further. To access the Referrals list, click on **PATIENT DATA** in the navigation bar, and then on the Referrals tab.

[Patient Search](#)
[Access Summary](#)
[Referrals](#)

Referrals for Vasc-Alert Training Facility 3

(105 referrals) < Prev 1 2 3 4 Next >

date	patient	access facility	intervention	date	
05/16/2013	<a href="#">TROVINGER, LOIS [VA-512562F4695]</a>	VA Access Center (Training)			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
05/10/2013	<a href="#">BOONE, TYREE [VA-91565D8FC9]</a>	General Hospital Department of Nephrology			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
05/08/2013	<a href="#">YAGUES, XAVIER [VA-3993424E015]</a>	Lanham Access Center			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
05/07/2013	<a href="#">BATTIATA, ELEONORA [VA-96716252F1D]</a>	Training Access Center Too			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
05/07/2013	<a href="#">DIVELBISS, LUCIENNE [VA-7696BD23B]</a>	VA Access Center (Training)			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
05/06/2013	<a href="#">LISOWSKI, LAVONA [VA-893152B768D]</a>	VA Access Center (Training)			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
04/22/2013	<a href="#">OSMON, MARYLN [VA-691122B6D7D]</a>	Test Access Center			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
04/22/2013	<a href="#">FARIS, CHERELLE [VA-1723720D691]</a>	VA Access Center (Training)			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
04/22/2013	<a href="#">TALK, KENYA [VA-491852C9491]</a>	Test Access Center			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
04/19/2013	<a href="#">BATTIATA, ELEONORA [VA-96716252F1D]</a>	ABC Access Center	angioplasty venous anastomosis	04/19/2013	<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
04/15/2013	<a href="#">SEABREEZE, KIZZY [VA-6969621F369]</a>	Test Access Center			<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>
03/22/2013	<a href="#">NUCHOLS, HAYDEN [VA-27194AF7F]</a>	Lifeline	Angioplasty central vessel	03/25/2013	<a href="#">print</a> <a href="#">edit</a>

The list is sorted with the most recent referral on top.

From this list you can:

- See which patients have had referrals and interventions recently, and access their Patient Detail pages.
- Display the referral record and link it to a previously logged intervention, or log a new intervention.
- Produce and print a new copy of the referral package.
- Edit or delete referral information.

Different parts of the list bring up different options.

The diagram illustrates the actions available for each row in the Referrals list. Arrows point from the following elements to their respective action screens:

- date:** Clicking on the date (05/16/2013) leads to a screen for reviewing referral information on a single page, adding a related intervention, or linking to an existing one.
- patient:** Clicking on the patient name (TROVINGER, LOIS) leads to the online Patient Detail report.
- print:** Clicking on "print" leads to a screen to regenerate and print a referral package.
- edit:** Clicking on "edit" leads to a screen to edit or delete the referral and add information about a related intervention.



**Note**

For Information about adding and working with interventions, see [Logging Interventions](#).

### Reprinting a referral

Click on the "Print Referral Form" button to regenerate and reprint the referral package. Click on the image below to see more options for printing:



## Editing or deleting a referral

To edit a referral to do delete it entirely, click on the "edit" link in the Referral list. The Quick Form appears (click on image below to see full size).

**Note:** you will see this page regardless of whether you used the Referral module to enter the referral, or whether you originally logged it through the Quick Form.

VASC-ALERT PATIENT DATA FILES SUPPORT logged in as Oliver Twist [logout]

home Vasc-Alert Training Facility 1 Patient Detail

### Referral for NORENE Anne MCMORRIES [VA-59425KE1CC0D]

General Info Patient Detail Clinical Detail Intervention

Date: 06/24/2013

Nephrologist: Bayham Badger

Scheduled by: Oliver Twist

Requested Procedure:

- DECLOT
- NEW AVF PLACEMENT
- NEW AVG PLACEMENT
- REVISION TO EXISTING AV ACCESS
- CATHETER PLACEMENT
- CATHETER REMOVAL
- CATHETER EXCHANGE
- FISTULAGRAM/GRAFTOGRAM
- VENOGRAM/VEIN MAPPING

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Indication:

- CLOTTED ACCESS
- STEAL SYNDROME
- NON-MATURING FISTULA
- INFILTRATION
- HIGH VENOUS PRESSURE
- FLOW SURVEILLANCE
- VASC-ALERT SURVEILLANCE
- PROLONGED BLEEDING
- DIFFICULT CANNULATION
- RECIRCULATION
- SWOLLEN EXTREMITY
- ANEURYSM
- DECREASED KT/V
- DECREASED URR
- CHANGE IN BRUIT OR THRILL
- INFECTION
- CATHETER DYSFUNCTION
- INABILITY TO ACHIEVE PRESCRIBED BFR
- CHANGE TO USABLE AV ACCESS

Access Center: VA Access Center (Training)

VA Access Center (Training)

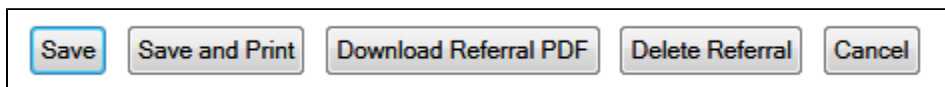
Phone: 123-456-7890

Fax: 123-098-7654

Address: 1234 Main Road, Summerville, IN 40404

Save Save and Print Download Referral PDF Delete Referral Cancel

You may add or update information on any of the tabs, or delete the referral entirely.

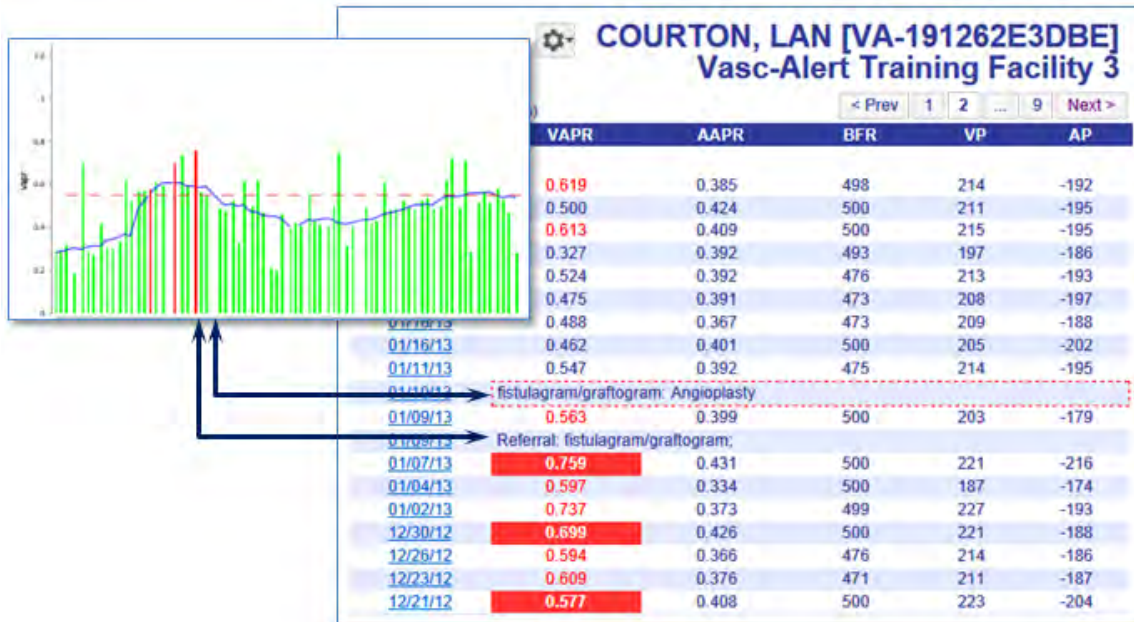


**Related Topics:**

- [Getting Started: Tools for Working With Referrals and Interventions](#)
- [Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module](#)
- [Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems](#)
- [Working with Existing Referrals](#)
- [Logging Interventions](#)
- [Logging Other Access Events](#)

## Logging Interventions

You can also use the Referral module to log information about the related intervention. Like referrals, interventions also appear in the Patient Detail report:



They also show up on the Referrals list:

date	patient	access facility	intervention	date
01/12/2013	CUNY, JARROD [VA-389562CA77F]	Test Access Center		
01/12/2013	NUCHOLS, HAYDEN [VA-27194AFF7F]	Test Access Center		
01/09/2013	COURTON, LAN [VA-191262E3DBE]	Test Access Center	fistulagram/graftogram	01/10/2013
12/24/2012	BATTIATA, ELEONORA [VA-96716252F1D]	Test Access Center		
12/17/2012	NUCHOLS, HAYDEN [VA-27194AFF7F]	ABC Access Center	Angiogram of vessel	12/20/2012

There are several ways to log interventions to the Vasc-Alert patient record, depending on your workflow:

- To log information about a referral and intervention at the same time, use the Quick Form option.
- To log a new intervention related to an existing referral, locate the referral on the Referrals List in the Patient Data section and click "edit." This will open the Quick Form where you can fill in the information on the "Intervention" tab.
- To log an intervention without relating it to a referral, use the "Record Intervention" option on the Tools menu. You can still associate it with an existing referral later on.

### Logging a referral and an intervention at the same time

Select "Log Referral (Quick Form)" from the Tools menu next on the Patient Search page or on the Patient Detail page. After you have filled out the referral information, click on the [intervention](#) tab to log the intervention. Click "Add Intervention to Referral" on the Intervention tab, then click "Save."

**VASC-ALERT** PATIENT DATA FILES SUPPORT logged in as Oliver Twist [logout]

home Vasc-Alert Training Facility 1 patient info

## Referral for NORENE Anne MCMORRIES [VA-59425KE1CC0D]

Patient: NORENE Anne MCMORRIES [VA-59425KE1CC0D]  
 Referral Date: 06/24/2013  
 Access Center (required): Training Access Center Too  
 Intervention Date: 06/26/13  
 Primary Procedure: ANGIOPLASTY  
 Additional Procedure(s):  
 Surgeon: Bayham Badger  
 Notes: Suggest starting a new AVF access soon.

### Logging an intervention related to an existing referral

To log an intervention performed as the result of a previously logged referral, start in the Referrals list and click on "edit." This opens the Quick Form, where you can enter the information on the [Intervention](#) tab. Click on "Add Intervention to Referral" when you are finished.

#### Alternate method

You can also click on the date of the referral on the Referrals list. Scroll to "Related Intervention" section at the bottom of the page and click on the link to open the intervention form.

Coumadin/Other Lytics? [yes](#)

Competent to sign consent? [yes](#)

If "No", form is signed by whom?  
Phone:

Clinical Notes: [Watch patient closely for dizziness- does not do well in a clinical setting.](#)

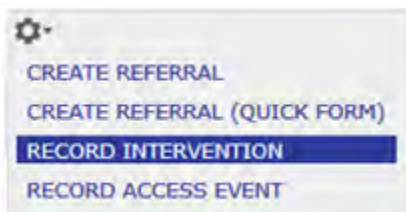
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**Related Intervention:**

[Record information about a new followup intervention for this referral.](#)

Click "Save Intervention" when you are finished. The intervention will now show up as part of the referral information in the Referrals list, and in the Patient Detail report.

### Using the Tools Menu option to log an intervention



If you do not have information about the referral that led up to an intervention, you can log it directly through the Tools Menu. Selecting "Record Intervention" displays a page similar to the one above, but with an additional field for the Access Center. The Procedure field is used to record the actual procedure performed by the access center, whereas the "Procedure Type" identifies the procedure that the access center was requested to perform.

The screenshot shows the Vasc-Alert web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Vasc-Alert logo, 'PATIENT DATA', 'FILES', and 'SUPPORT' links. The user is logged in as 'Oliver Twist' with a 'Logout' link. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'home', 'Vasc-Alert Training Facility 1', 'Referrals', and 'Patient Detail'. The main heading is 'Record Intervention for CONTESSA A KUSNIC'. The form contains the following fields:

- Access Center:** A dropdown menu with the text 'choose Access Center...'.
- Date:** A text input field.
- Surgeon:** A text input field.
- Primary Procedure:** A dropdown menu with the text 'Choose the procedure for this intervention...'.
- Additional Procedure(s)/Notes:** A large text area for notes.
- Buttons:** 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom left.

## Typing interventions and referrals together

If you have already logged the intervention independently of the referral, you can link them together later. To do this:

1. Locate the referral in the Referrals list, and click on the date to the left of the patient name
2. Scroll to the bottom to view the Related Intervention section:
3. Click on the listed intervention to relate it to the referral.
4. Scroll to the bottom of the form to the Related Intervention section. You will see a list of interventions logged for the patient after the referral date.

### Related Intervention:

This patient has some interventions recorded after this referral. Click on an intervention below to link that intervention to this referral.

date	procedure
05/14/2013	<a href="#">venogram/vein mapping</a> Imaging

[Record information about a new followup intervention for this referral.](#)

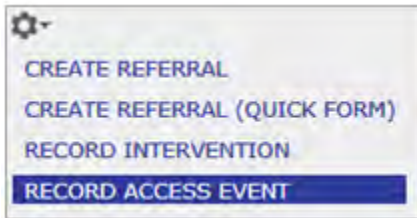
### Related Topics:

- Getting Started: Tools for Working With Referrals and Interventions
- Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module
- Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems
- Working with Existing Referrals
- Logging Interventions
- Logging Other Access Events



## Logging Other Access Events

The "Record Access Event" option on the Tools menu gives you the capability of logging additional pertinent information about the patient's access to the Patient record. This information appears on the Patient Detail report. Examples of access events include the use of more than two needles in the access, reversal of lines if a catheter is in use during a treatment, clotted bloodlines or infiltration.



A screenshot of a form titled 'Access Event For TOBY VANOS [VA-52693E418D]'. The form contains the following fields:
 

- Date: 05/20/2013
- Access Type: GRAFT
- Access Type: Arm (Left upper)
- Type of Event: Lines reversed
- Notes: Arterial and venous lines inadvertently reversed. Problem discovered after one hour and corrected.

 At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Save Access Event' and 'Cancel'.

You will see the event listed on the Patient Detail report:

A screenshot of a patient detail report for 'VANOS, TOBY [VA-52693E418D]' at 'Vasc-Alert Training Facility 3'. The report shows a table of encounters with columns for date, VAPR, AAPR, BFR, VP, and AP. The first row is highlighted with a blue background and an orange arrow pointing to it. The table also includes a 'Lines reversed: GRAFT' note for the first date.

date	VAPR	AAPR	BFR	VP	AP
05/20/13	Lines reversed: GRAFT				
05/07/13	0.148	0.366	432	159	-149
05/04/13	0.332	0.341	450	184	-158
05/02/13	0.014	0.480	425	133	-201
04/30/13	0.234	0.322	393	144	-136



**Related Topics:**

- [Getting Started: Tools for Working With Referrals and Interventions](#)
  - [Generating Referral Packages with the Vasc-Alert Referral Module](#)
  - [Using the Quick Form to Log Referrals from Other Systems](#)
  - [Working with Existing Referrals](#)
  - [Logging Interventions](#)
  - [Logging Other Access Events](#)
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## Uploading Treatment Files to Vasc-Alert

Some dialysis facilities get their treatment run data files to Vasc-Alert by uploading files manually on a regular basis (usually weekly.) While most centers choose to do this on Mondays, any day of the week is fine, although we prefer that you are consistent from one week to the next whenever possible.

You can upload files to Vasc-Alert from two areas: the Home page, and the Files page. The process is the same.

**Note**

If you work with more than one facility, you will have to select one before you can upload files.

The Upload Files area on the Home Page is shown below. The area on the Files page is similar.

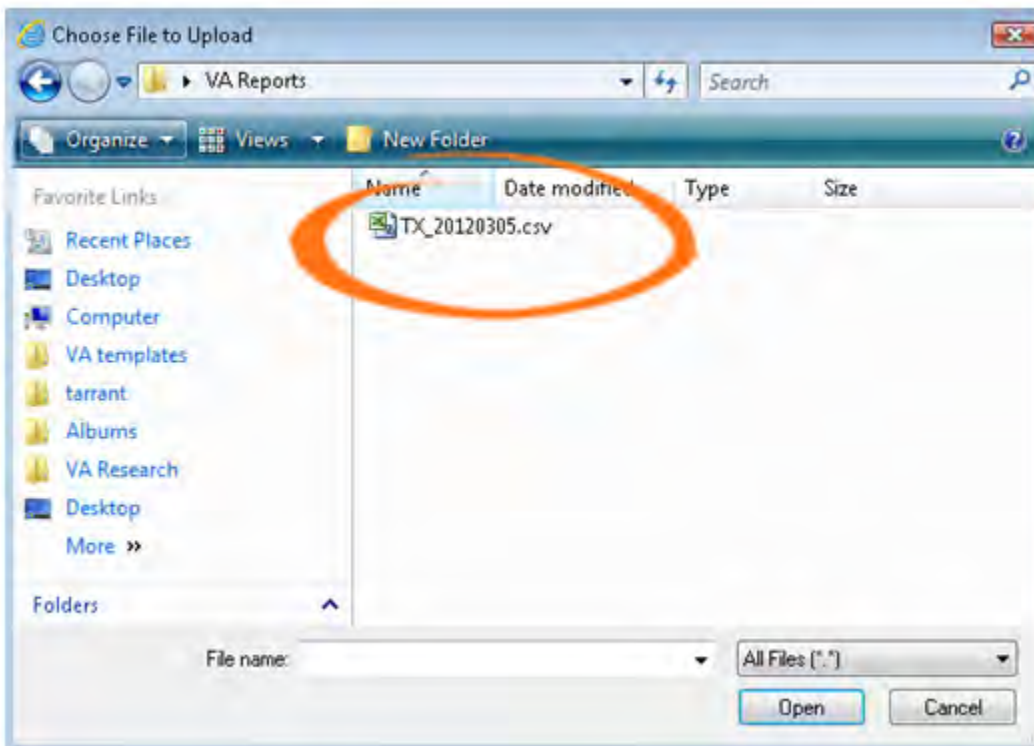
**Upload Files**

You can use this upload form to send data files or any other setup or configuration change information.

Upload file:

file:

Click on the "Browse" button in the Upload Files area, then locate and select your file. Click "upload file" to finish the process.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why didn't my patient show up in the reports?

Check the online or printed Access report to see if the patient is listed there with the correct access information. If the information is incorrect, please make changes in your electronic medical record (EMR) so the patient will have calculations in the next week's reports.

If the patient is completely missing from our reports it means that we did not receive data on that patient. Check with your EMR vendor to find out why the patient's data was not transmitted.

### What should I do if my patient is on alert?

If it is an isolated alert, continue monitoring your reports per your normal protocol. If the patient has an upward trend of VAPR (venous access pressure ratio) or AAPR (arterial access pressure ratio) and starts alerting, the patient may need to be referred for intervention. This is particularly true if other indicators are present, such as a decrease in BFR.

You should also confirm the patient's access information and see if there are any other clinical findings that may be relevant. Vasc-Alert is often an early or first indicator for identifying a dysfunctional access and although your patient may be on alert, many of these clinical findings are considered late indicators and may not be present. Some examples include: prolonged bleeding, difficult cannulation, infiltration, etc.

For more detailed information, see the Alert Decision Flowchart.



### My patient recently had angioplasty. The VAPR (or AAPR) result did drop initially, but it is rising again rapidly. What does that mean?

Most likely the patient is re-stenosing. You should refer the patient back to the interventionalist. The interventionalist may decide to angioplasty again. If the results rise rapidly again after another intervention, the patient probably has a chronic or recurrent stenosis. The interventionalist may opt to place a stent in the access in an attempt to prolong its use.

For patients with chronic or recurrent stenosis issues it may be best to try to get another access placed (if possible). That way when the first access fails, the patient can be moved onto the next access without having to have a central line placed.

### Why are the negative arterial pressure readings low or missing?

If the arterial pressure readings are very low, it may mean that you have a wet transducer (either internal or external), although this would generally only effect single treatments. Persistent low readings could mean that the arterial pressure monitoring line is being clamped during the treatment. If there are no arterial pressure readings and you are monitoring arterial pressure, it may mean that the monitoring line was clamped and removed from the sensor.

Persistent missing or low arterial pressures can identify a need for additional staff training and education to improve you clinical quality, outcomes and safety. In particular it would be a good time to point out to care givers that clamping or disconnecting the monitoring line puts the patient is at risk of losing his/her access, because the patient may have an arterial inflow issue. For arterial problems not related to an individual treatment cannulation problem, the best practice is for the care giver to inform the charge nurse so that the patient can be referred for fistulogram and intervention.

### What does it mean when I see a \*\*\* result in the data table in the Patient Detail report?

It means that a calculation was not made for that result. This could be for several reasons.

We did not receive that data, so we were unable to calculate. The patient's MAP was less than 65, so we did not calculate. The result was less than zero. If the VAPR result is \*\*\* and we have received data and the patient's MAP is greater than 65, there are two explanations for the \*\*\* result.

1. If the patient's BFR has remained steady, the result of the VAPR calculation may be less than zero because the venous segment of the access has a larger diameter than the arterial segment. In other words if the outflow of the access has a larger diameter than the inflow, the pressure readings would be lower on the venous end of the access and that could result in a VAPR result that is less than zero or \*\*\*. Continue monitoring this patient's reports per normal protocol.
2. If the patient's BFR has been decreasing and there is an increasing trend in AAPR, the VAPR result may be less than zero due to decreased flow and pressure across the access. In other words the magnitude of pressure is greater on the arterial end of the access and that limits the amount of blood flow and pressure in the venous end of the access. This patient is at high risk for losing his/her access due to decreased flow/pressure. Refer this patient for intervention promptly.

#### **How important is having the correct needle gauge?**

Having the right needle gauge can determine whether a patient shows up on the alert list. This is because a smaller needle is always going to produce more pressure than a larger one. Imagine 3 patients, who are all showing up in the treatment run data as using 15 gauge needles:

- Patient A is really using a 15 gauge needle. Their VAPR values will be accurate.
- Patient B is actually using a 16 gauge needle. Their VAPR values will be too high. They may appear to be having major problems with their access when they are actually ok.
- Patient C is actually using a 14 gauge needle. Their VAPR values will be too low. They may appear to be ok when they actually should be on the alert list.

Also, we do not calculate VAPR for patients on record as using 17 gauge needles because that is usually a very short period of time. So if the patient has really moved onto 16 gauge needles but the records still say 17, they will not be showing up in the reports at all. And if the gauge value is missing or set to zero, those treatments will not have calculations.

# Support

The support page gives you an opportunity to request different kinds of help and to communicate with us about other issues. You can access the support page from anywhere in Vasc-Alert by clicking on **SUPPORT** in the main menu bar.

Please remember to select a category for your request from the drop-down field next to "concerning."

**i** If you have a question about a particular patient, do not include the name or medical record number in the comments. Ask us to give you a call and you can give us more specific information at that time.

The screenshot shows the Vasc-Alert web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Vasc-Alert logo and menu items: PATIENT DATA, FILES, and SUPPORT. The user is logged in as 'Demo User' with a [logout] link. Below the navigation bar, there are breadcrumb links: home, Vasc-Alert Renal U, and technical support. The main heading is 'Vasc-Alert Online Support Contact'. A blue button labeled 'Contact Vasc-Alert' is visible. Below this, a message states: 'You can make any sort of support request or suggestion through this form. Do not send any patient information through email.' The form contains the following fields:

- username: hirschm562C
- name: Demo User
- email address: demo@openchannelsof
- concerning: Correction: Patient Data
- comments: One of my patients is listed as having a fistula, but this patient has been using a catheter for 2 weeks. Please call me to discuss. (212) 555-2034. Thanks!

A 'send support request' button is located at the bottom right of the form.