

## INTRODUCTION

Patients with Central Venous Catheters (CVCs) are at higher risk for increased infection, morbidity, mortality, and hospitalizations. CVC to Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter (PDC) Conversion is a collaborative effort between the in-center hemodialysis (HD) team and the peritoneal dialysis (PD) team to transition appropriate patients from a CVC to a PDC.

**Objective: Describe the CVC-to-PDC program and its results since initiation in 2009.**

## METHODOLOGY

- The CVC to PDC initiative:
  - Started in May 2009
  - Was conducted in partnership with DaVita's catheter removal program (CathAway™)
  - Begins with patient education outlining the benefits of PD as an alternative dialysis therapy
  - Identifies appropriate CVC patients who are potential PD candidates
  - Educates patient on benefits of PD
  - Schedules the patient for PD catheter placement and PD therapy training once the patient, family, and physician agree to begin PD therapy

## CVC-to-PDC PROGRAM and RESULTS

### CVC to PDC Key Tactics

- PD RNs partner with sister HD clinics without PD patients
  - Educate staff to raise PD awareness
  - Grow PD in non-PD clinics
- Identify most appropriate CVC patients to deliver PD education
- Physicians discuss PD therapy with patient and family

### CVC to PDC Conversion Patient Characteristics

- In-center HD patients who experience:
  - Exhausted accesses
  - Body image issues for fistula placement
  - Fear of needles
  - Clotted access (and do not want another vascular access placed)
- New HD patients with a CVC

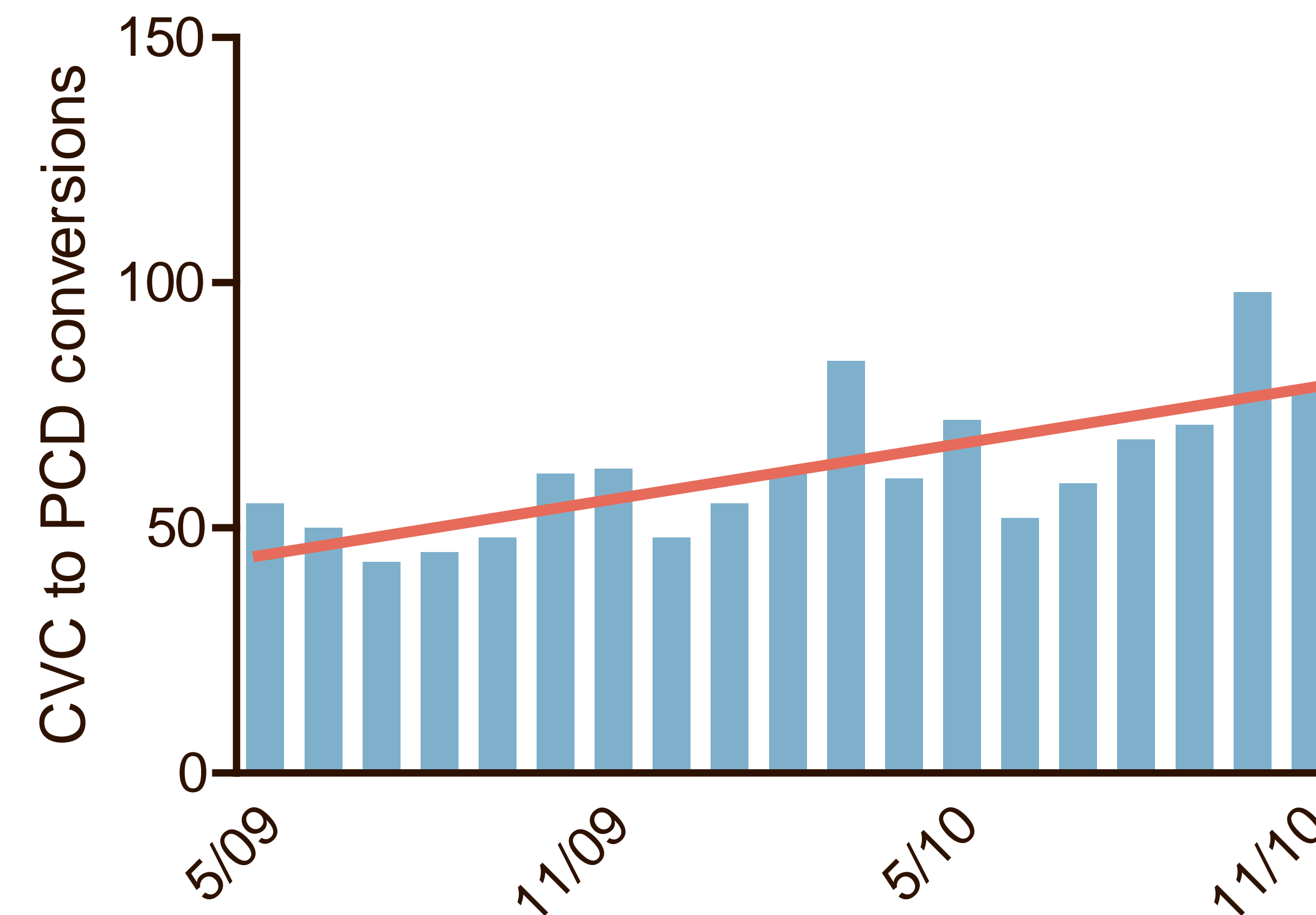


Figure 1. Monthly CVC to PDC conversions between May 2009 and November 2010.

## SUMMARY of RESULTS

- In 18 months since program initiation (5/09-11/10), 1,172 CVCs converted to PDC (Figure 1).
- Approximately 76% of the patients are still actively using the PDC.

## KEY LEARNINGS

- ✓ Through collaborative cross-discipline efforts, this program has proven effective in CVC removal for patients going from in-center HD to PD.
- ✓ Dedicated support from the nurse, vascular access manager, social worker, and physician was provided for those patients requiring further education on the importance of PDC conversion.
- ✓ By having their CVC removed, patients are less likely to experience infection and hospitalizations related to CVC use and thus have an improved quality of life.

Our sincere appreciation to the teammates in our nearly 1600 clinics who work every day not only to take care of patients but also to ensure the extensive data collection on which our work is based. We thank the in-center HD and PD nurses who dedicated so much time and effort to this project. We thank DaVita Clinical Research® (DCR), and specifically acknowledge Karen Spach, PhD of DCR for her editorial contribution, in preparing this poster. DCR is committed to advancing the knowledge and practice of kidney care.

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