

# Tract dilatation to salvage failing buttonholes in dialysis fistulas

Study assesses the efficacy of this technique

*Dr. Eyal Barzel, interventional radiologist and medical director of Azura Surgery Center at Cherry Hill, New Jersey, exhibited the following scientific abstract at the Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) 2017 annual meeting, which assesses tract dilatation in dialysis patients whose buttonholes could no longer be cannulated.<sup>1</sup>*

## January 2013 – August 2015

Tract dilatation performed for **51 buttonholes**

### 38 buttonholes

Cannulation was improved  
IMMEDIATELY

**75% success rate**

### 29 buttonholes

Cannulation remained improved  
AT ONE MONTH

**57% success rate**

### For 9 patients with

**more than 1 encounter,**

the average time between dilatations was

**4.5 months.**

## Conclusion

**Buttonhole tract dilatation is a useful method to extend the life of failing buttonholes.**

To learn more about Dr. Eyal Barzel, visit  
[azuravascularcare.com/physicians/eyal-barzel](http://azuravascularcare.com/physicians/eyal-barzel).

1. The full abstract can be viewed in the proceedings of the SIR 2017 annual meeting.  
[http://www.jvir.org/article/S1051-0443\(16\)31949-2/pdf](http://www.jvir.org/article/S1051-0443(16)31949-2/pdf).



## Culture of clinical excellence

As a national healthcare leader and part of Fresenius Medical Care North America (FMCNA), Azura Vascular Care is constantly improving how we support our patients through research-based insights and leveraging our physician partners' expertise.

The Azura network of vascular specialists collaborate on research topics that help define best practices and contribute to the advancement of evidence-based medicine. We utilize clinical quality measures to demonstrate our ability to optimize patient outcomes and minimize hospitalization rates, delivering the best experience possible.

## Reshaping vascular care in an outpatient setting

Through our physician leadership and clinical research, we are working towards reshaping vascular care in this ever evolving healthcare environment and improving the health and quality of life of the people in our communities.

Research has proven that patients can be treated safely and effectively in an outpatient setting, resulting in excellent clinical outcomes.

At an Azura center, patients avoid the complexities of a hospital admission and are cared for by a service-focused staff, both of which ensure a positive patient experience.

Each Azura Vascular Care center is run in partnership with top local vascular specialists, combining an understanding of the local community with the extensive resources and support of a nationwide organization.

## About Azura Vascular Care

Azura Vascular Care is a national leader in the field of vascular specialty services. Operating outpatient vascular care and ambulatory surgery centers in 25 states and Puerto Rico, Azura's physicians and trained medical specialists perform minimally invasive procedures to treat and manage a wide variety of vascular conditions, including dialysis access management, peripheral artery disease, uterine fibroids, varicoceles, varicose veins and more.

To learn more, visit  
[azuravascularcare.com](http://azuravascularcare.com).