

**Table S5.** Bacteremia and local signs of infection as an outcome of the cannulation technique in arteriovenous fistulas in Observational studies

First author	Study design	Average age (years)	Sample size		Outcome		P Value	Notes
			Experimental group	Control group	Experimental group	Control group		
Bacteremia and local signs of infection related to access (n = events)								
van Loon et al. (2010) [14]	Observational	BH = 67 RL = 65	75	70	2 2	0 0		- BH 2 Two local infections - BH 2 Staphylococcus aureus
Smyth W et al. (2013) [30]	Observational	BH = 60 RL = 61	41	63	2.34/1000 HD sessions	6.38/1000 HD sessions	=1.0	- Clinical signs of infection: BH = 3 (7.3%) vs RL = 4 (6.3%)
Glerup R et al. (2019) [31]	Observational	BH = 63.7 Steplader/area =71.2	144	142	0.268/1000 Fistula-days	0.038/1000 Fistula-days	< 0.001	Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia: BH = 43 (29.86%) RL/área = 5 (3.52%)

Abbreviations: BH: buttonhole; RL: rope-ladder; HD: hemodialysis