

Vascular anastomosis

A vascular [anastomosis](#) is a surgical procedure that is used to connect vessels to each other. Vascular procedures that require an anastomosis include: Coronary artery bypass surgery to treat a blocked artery supplying the heart. Connecting an artery to a vein for hemodialysis access.

[Rat Model for Practicing Microsurgical Vascular Anastomosis.](#)

History

The first vascular anastomosis was detailed by Eck in [1877](#) with his operation on [dogs](#) to create a [side-to-side anastomosis](#) of the hepatic vein to the inferior caval vein (later known as the Eck fistula). Of the 8 dogs undergoing this procedure, 7 died in 1 week and 1 lived briefly before running away ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Bollman J: The animal with an Eck [fistula](#). Physiol Rev 41:607, 1961

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