INTRODUCTION
Flow cannot be measured directly on newly inserted prosthetic ePTFE grafts (Fig. 1) because air within the synthetic graft walls attenuates ultrasound signal transmission. Graft outflow is therefore measured on the outflow vein following completion of both the arterial and venous anastomoses (Figs. 2, 3). If the distal vein has not been ligated, flow is still measured proximal to the anastomosis, while the distal unligated section of the vein is temporarily occluded (Fig. 4).
5. DOCUMENT FLOWS
   After applying a Flowprobe to a vein, wait ~ 10-15 seconds. When flow readings are stable, flow data can be captured by recording or taking a snapshot on the Flowmeter or by pressing PRINT on Flowmeter equipped with that option. If the flow reading is negative on the LED, press INVERT to reverse the polarity of the flow reading from negative to positive before printing out the waveform.

6. MEASURE POTENTIAL FOR STEAL SYNDROME (OPTIONAL)
   With the Flowprobe placed on the vein as previously, measure flow with, and without, occlusion of the artery distal to the arterial anastomosis. The difference between the two readings equals flow in the distal branch of the artery. When the flow reading without distal occlusion is higher than the reading with occlusion, blood in the distal branch is flowing retrograde to augment fistula flow and vascular steal may develop. (Note: Alternately, distal arterial flow can be measured directly by placing a Flowprobe on a properly cleaned arterial site distal to the anastomosis.)