Purpose:
To determine the amount of contrast used for common vascular access procedures.

Background:
This study was performed analyzing procedures conducted by a single interventional nephrologist. The involved interventionist was curious about the amount of radiopaque contrast used for different procedures he performed. The study looks at procedures performed over a 4 month period, from 8/29/20 to 12/29/20. The amount of contrast utilized for six different categories of procedures was compiled using Braintree software. These procedures included: angioplasty (n=217), angiogram (n=79), fistula thrombectomy (n=37), graft thrombectomy (n=30), de novo tunneled catheter placement (n=7), and tunneled catheter exchange (n=18). The average contrast used for each procedure type (in mL) was subsequently calculated from this data.

Conclusion:
As expected, the amount of radiopaque contrast used coincides with the complexity of the procedure type. For instance, thrombectomies required the highest usage of contrast as compared to the other procedure types. This analysis may help to perform procedures in a more cost-effective manner, as well as be useful when planning procedures for patients with residual renal function.