CAVH: Continuous Arterio-Venous Hemofiltration

This is the old school method of dialysis. In 1977, Kramer et al did this to people. In absence of better forms of dialysis, it seemed like a good idea. Huge catheters were introduced into people’s arteries, typically their femoral arteries. In some studies, 16% of patients developed various horrible complications as a result—fistulae, aneurysms, and so forth. It was an unpopular and painful method of fluid removal. Needless to say, everyone was very happy when the principle was applied to veno-venous circuits.

For a definitive treatment of all of this, you ought to pay homage to the “Critical Care Nephrology” by Ronco Bellomo and Kellum (2009).