End-Stage Renal Disease Network of New England

IPRC

Word Search Puzzle: Kidney Transplant

Did you know that kidney transplantation is a treatment option for people with kidney failure? This option requires a surgical procedure to implant a healthy kidney from a donor. A donor can be a living family member, friend or stranger; it can also be someone who has passed away, but had decided they wanted to be a donor while they were still alive. A kidney transplant is not for everyone, but if you are considering a transplant, it is important for you to be evaluated by staff at a transplant center to see if you qualify. Take this word search puzzle challenge and learn more about transplant as a treatment option.

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Word Bank:						
KIDNEY	WAITLIST	RECIPIENT				
TRANSPLANT	MULTI-LISTED	KDPI SCORE				
IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS	BLOOD TYPE	EPTS SCORE				
KIDNEY SWAP	DONOR SERVICE AREA	REFERRAL GUIDE				
TRANSPLANT CENTER	NON-LIVING DONOR	KIDNEY ALLOCATION SYSTEM				
LIVING DONOR	MATCH	UNOS				
REFERRAL	TISSUE TYPE	FREEDOM				
APPOINTMENTS	ELIGIBILITY	HEPATITIS C				



To file a grievance, please contact: IPRO End-Stage Renal Disease Network of the New England 1952 Whitney Avenue, 2nd Floor Hamden, CT 06517 Patient Toll-Free: (866) 286-3773 • Main: (203) 387-9332 Fax: (203) 389-9902 • E-mail: esrdnetwork1@ipro.us Web: network1.esrd.ipro.org

Developed by IPRO ESRD Network of New England while under contract with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Contract HHSM-500-2016-00019C

Glossary of Definitions:

KIDNEY: Most people have two kidneys, each the size of a clinched fist. They are located on either side of the mid-upper part of the back. The kidneys are our organs responsible for cleaning the blood of waste products, fluid, and excess nutrients; they also help to produce hemoglobin and maintain healthy bones.

TRANSPLANT: This is a surgical procedure in which a surgeon places a functioning kidney in a person whose kidneys are not working well enough to support their health. This is an optional treatment for kidney failure, however it is not a cure.

IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS: After a kidney transplant, the recipient's immune (or fighter) cells will recognize the transplanted kidney as foreign and will try to eliminate it; this is called rejection. Transplant recipients need to take medications to help prevent this process; these are also known as anti-rejection medications.

KIDNEY SWAP: A kidney swap program, also called a paired exchange program, allows a living kidney donor who is not compatible with the intended recipient to exchange kidneys with another donor-recipient pair. Participating in the kidney swap program allows for a recipient to receive a matched kidney, and helps other individuals who would otherwise continue to wait for a matched donor.

TRANSPLANT CENTER: Many hospitals around the country have certified transplant center programs. These are the only institutions that can medically evaluate you for, and provide, a kidney transplant. Connecticut has two certified transplant centers; Massachusetts has five; Maine has one; New Hampshire has one; Rhode Island has one; and Vermont has one. You are not limited to a transplant center in your state. To review the transplant centers of your region, please refer the last page of this resource. **LIVING DONOR:** This is a person who actively and willingly decides to donate one of his or her working kidneys to you or another person. Living donor kidneys usually work better and last longer than cadaver kidneys. Recipients of kidneys from living donors generally have fewer complications. Also, a living donor kidney provides the recipient control over the timing of the surgery (it is scheduled versus waiting on the list and hoping for a call).

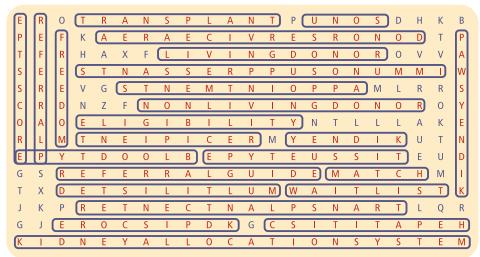
REFERRAL: The process by which your information is sent to a transplant center to begin the evaluation that determines if a kidney transplant is safe for you. You may be referred to a transplant center for evaluation by your dialysis facility or doctor. Some transplant centers accept patients who are self-referred, while others request that the referral is made by the dialysis facility.

APPOINTMENTS: A transplant evaluation will include multiple medical appointments, often at the transplant center, including your initial evaluation after referral. In addition, other medical appointments might be required to check other aspects of your health such as your heart, your abdomen, your blood vessels, your oral care, etc. **WAITLIST:** After a transplant center has evaluated your medical, psychosocial and financial situation, and a kidney transplant is determined to be a safe option, you are added to a national waiting list from which deceased donor kidney transplant offers are made. The average waiting time of patients who do not have a living donor is about four (4) years.

MULTI-LISTED: You can be referred, evaluated and put on the transplant waitlist with more than one transplant center at the same time. This expands your chances of getting a kidney sooner if the transplant centers are in different donor service areas.

BLOOD TYPE: Normally, humans have one of four blood types (A, B, AB and O). Traditionally, transplants were performed only between patients with the same blood type. More recently, however, kidney transplant surgery is not limited to receiving a kidney from an individual of the same blood type. If your living donor is a different blood type than you, you should both be evaluated by a transplant center.

DONOR SERVICE AREA: This is he geographical area from which kidney (and other organs) become available. Because kidneys are often (but not always) placed in the same area that they came from, being on the waitlist at transplant centers located in different donor service areas increases your chances of getting a kidney offer sooner.



Glossary of Definitions:

NON-LIVING DONOR : When a patient is added to the transplant waitlist, he or she is waiting for a person to pass away in order to receive their working kidney(s). Kidneys are used from donors only if the donor has decided that they want to become an organ donor when they were alive or if their families/next of kin authorized the donation.

MATCH: When a kidney that matches your health needs becomes available (from a living or deceased donor), it is considered to be a match for you.

TISSUE TYPE: TThis refers to a marker in your cells that is used to verify the compatibility between the organ donor and the recipient to see if the kidney is a match. This term is also referred to as the matching between a recipient and the donated kidney.

ELIGIBILITY: Eligibility for a kidney transplant means that a person has met all of the requirements that a transplant center believes are important to assure that kidney transplantation is a safe option for the recipient. Eligibility criteria include medical, financial, social, surgical, and psychological factors, among others. Each transplant center has a unique set of eligibility criteria; if you are not eligible at one transplant center, you may want to consider being evaluated by a different transplant center.

RECIPIENT: The person receiving the kidney transplant is referred as the recipient. The person receiving a kidney could be a person in the late stages of chronic kidney disease, or someone who is currently having dialysis treatment for end stage renal disease.

KDPI SCORE: The Kidney Donor Profile Index (KDPI) is a score that takes into account several factors that predict how long a deceased donor kidney is likely to function when compared to other kidneys. Although lower values of KDPI are associated with an increased quality and expected longevity of a kidney, accepting a higher KDPI offer might still be a good option for some patients, as it would likely reduce the waiting time. In general, older recipients on the list at centers with long waiting times benefit from accepting these types of kidneys.

EPTS SCORE: The Estimated Post-Transplant Survival (EPTS) score is assigned to each person on the transplant waitlist. The score allows to prioritize kidneys who are expected to last longer with individuals who are expected to live many years. This score is used along with the KDPI to help match recipients to donated kidneys in the kidney allocation system.

REFERRAL GUIDE: The ESRD Network - New England Area Renal Transplant Center Referral Guide is a resource available to you that summarizes the absolute exclusion criteria of all fifteen transplant centers located in CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, and VT. This resource allows you to make an informed decision about the transplant center(s) that would be best for you. This Referral Guide will help you decide which additional transplant centers you want to be referred, with the goal of being multi-listed. Ask your facility social worker or nurse for a copy of this guide.

KIDNEY ALLOCATION SYSTEM:

This is a set of rules that the people who manage the national transplant waitlist follow to place a donated kidney with the goal of assuring that the waiting period is equitable and fair to every person listed. **UNOS:** The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) is the organization that manages the transplant waitlist. When your transplant center informs you that you have been added to the transplant waitlist or are "waitlisted," it means that your information has been provided to UNOS, and you are officially waiting to be called when an organ becomes available for you. The waiting list is national, so your kidney offer could come from anywhere in the United States.

FREEDOM: A successful kidney transplant can free you from dialysis treatments and/or chronic kidney disease. It is also possible that with this treatment modality you feel physically better and with more energy to do the things you enjoy. The transplanted kidney is cleaning your blood 24 hours a day, instead of the average 12 hours a week that other dialysis modalities can offer!

HEPATITIS C: This is a virus that can damage a person's liver if left uncured over many years. The virus is passed from person to person via body fluids, mostly commonly blood. Currently there are several medications available that cure hepatitis C and prevent it from causing permanent damage to a person's liver. A person waiting for a kidney can agree to receive a kidney from a donor who had hepatitis C, and then be cured for this condition (meaning that the virus did not have time to cause liver problems). Many patients who are willing to accept a kidney from a donor with hepatitis C experience a shorter time on the waitlist and often receive very good quality kidneys. Discuss with your transplant center if they offer this program.

New England Area Kidney Transplant Centers

HARTFORD HOSPITAL

85 Seymour Street, Suite 320 Hartford, CT 06102-5037 • Phone: (860) 972-4219 • Fax: (860) 545-4328 https://hartfordhospital.org

YALE NEW HAVEN ORGAN TRANSPLANT CENTER

800 Howard Ave New Haven, CT 06520-8062 • Phone: (203) 785-2565 • Fax: (203) 785-7162 www.ynhh.org/ transplantation-center/default.aspx

MAINE MEDICAL CENTER

19 West Street, Portland, ME 04102 • Phone: (207) 662-7180 • Fax: (207) 662-7190 www.mmc.org/maine-transplant-program

BAYSTATE MEDICAL CENTER

759 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01107 • Phone: (413) 794-0000 • Fax: (413) 794-2603 https://www.baystatehealth.org/services/surgery/specialties/transplant

BETH ISRAEL DEACONNESS MEDICAL CENTER

Division of Transplantation, 110 Francis Street, 7th Floor, Lowery Building, Boston, MA 02215 • Phone: (617) 667-7000 • Fax: (617) 632-9804 https://www.bidmc.org/centers-and-departments/transplant-institute

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

725 Albany St 7th floor Suite 7A, Boston MA 02118 • Phone: (617) 638-8430 • Fax: (617) 638-8427 https://www.bmc.org/transplant-surgery

BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

Renal Transplant Division- PBB-215, 75 Francis Street, Boston, MA 02115 • Phone: (617) 732-5500 • Fax: (617) 732-7832 https://www.brighamandwomens.org/surgery/transplant-surgery

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF BOSTON

Transplant Center- Farley Four, 300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 0211 • Phone: (617) 355-6000 • Fax: (617) 730-0342 www.childrenshospital.org/centers-and-services/programs/f-_-n/kidney-transplant-program/overview

LAHEY HEALTH

41 Mall Road, Burlington, MA 01805 • Phone: (781) 744-2500 • Fax: (781) 744-5009 https://www.lahey.org/

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

Transplant Center, 165 Cambridge St Suite 300 Boston, MA 02114 • Phone: (617) 726-2000 • Fax: (617) 724-8652 www.massgeneral.org/transplant/services/treatmentprograms.aspx?id=1179

TUFTS MEDICAL CENTER

Transplant Center- 800 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02111 • Phone: (617) 636-5592 • Fax: (617) 636-8228 https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/patient-care-services/Departments-and-Services/Transplant-Surgery/Overview

U-MASS MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS MEDICAL CENTER

Transplant Unit- RM S3840, 55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA 01655 • Phone: (508) 334-2023 • Fax: (774) 441-8098 https://www.umassmemorialhealthcare.org/umass-memorial-medical-center/services-treatments/surgery/services-we-provide/organ-transplant-surgery/types-of-transplants

DARTMOUTH HITCHCOCK MEDICAL CENTER

Transplant Unit, One Medical Center Drive, Lebanon, NH 03756 • Phone: (603) 653-3931 • Fax: (603) 650-0924 https://www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/transplantation.html

RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL

Transplant Services- APC 921, 593 Eddy Street, Providence, RI 02903 • Phone: (401) 444-4000 • Fax: (401) 444-3283 www.rhodeislandhospital.org/services/transplant-center

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT MEDICAL CENTER

Transplant Unit, 1 South Prospect Street, Level 2, Burlington, VT 05401 • Phone: (802) 847-4774 • Fax: (802) 847-3619 https://www.uvmhealth.org/medcenter/Pages/Conditions-and-Treatments/kidney-transplant.aspx



End-Stage Renal Disease Network of New England Developed by IPRO ESRD Network of New England while under contract with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Contract HHSM-500-2016-00019C