



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
TRANSPLANT
IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS
KIDNEY SWAP
TRANSPLANT CENTER
LIVING DONOR
REFERRAL
APPOINTMENTS

WAITLIST
MULTI-LISTED
BLOOD TYPE
DONOR SERVICE AREA
NON-LIVING DONOR
MATCH
TISSUE TYPE
ELIGIBILITY

RECIPIENT
KDPI SCORE
EPTS SCORE
REFERRAL GUIDE
KIDNEY ALLOCATION SYSTEM
UNOS
FREEDOM
HEPATITIS C

Glossary of Definitions:

KIDNEY: Most people have two kidneys, each the size of a clenched 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.

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: This 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 to 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 - South Atlantic Area Kidney Transplant Center Referral Guide is a resource available to you that summarizes the absolute exclusion criteria of all nine adult transplant centers located in NC, SC and GA. This resource allows you to make an informed decision about the transplant center(s) that would be best for you. This Referral Guide also includes a map of the donor service area that helps you decide to 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.

South Atlantic Area Kidney Transplant Centers

GEORGIA

AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER - TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

1120 15th Street, AD 3401, Augusta, GA 30912

Phone: (706) 721-2888 • Fax: (706) 721-6271

www.augustahealth.org/transplant

EMORY TRANSPLANT CENTER

1365 Clifton Road NE, Building B, Sixth Floor, Atlanta, GA 30322

Phone: 1(855) 366-7989 (Toll Free) or (404) 727-0717 • Fax: (404) 727-8972

www.emoryhealthcare.org/transplant-kidney/index.html

PIEDMONT HOSPITAL TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE

1968 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, GA 30309

Phone: 1(888) 605-5888 (Toll Free) or (404) 605-4600 • Fax: (404) 609-6620

www.piedmont.org/transplant/transplant-home

NORTH CAROLINA

CAROLINAS MEDICAL CENTER RENAL TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

1025 Morehead Medical Drive, Suite 600, Charlotte, NC 28204

Phone: 1(800) 562-5752 (Toll Free) or (704) 355-0937 • Fax: (704) 355-7616

www.carolinashealthcare.org/medical-services/specialty-care/transplant

DUKE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL TRANSPLANT

2301 Erwin Road, Durham, NC 27710

Phone: 1(800) 249-5864 (Toll Free) or (919) 613-7777 • Fax: (919) 668-3897

www.dukehealth.org/treatments/transplant-program

UNC HOSPITAL TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

101 Manning Drive, N.C. Memorial Hospital, Fourth Floor, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Phone: (844) 862-5436 • Fax (984) 974-0888

<https://www.uncmedicalcenter.org/kidneytransplant>

VIDANT MEDICAL CENTER

600 Moyer Boulevard, Brody 4S-10, Greenville, NC 27834

Phone: (252) 847-0097 • Fax: (252) 847-3337

www.vidanthealth.com/Physicians-Providers/Refer-to-a-Specialist

WAKE FOREST BAPTIST HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

1 Medical Center Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC 27157

Phone: (336) 713-5660 • Fax: (336) 713-5055

<http://wakehealth.edu/General-Surgery/Abdominal-Transplant/Transplant-Surgery.html>

SO. CAROLINA

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA TRANSPLANT CENTER

135 Rutledge Avenue, Charleston, SC 29425

Phone: 1(800) 922-5250 (Toll Free) or (843) 792-2300 • Fax: (843) 792-3448

www.muschealth.org/transplant/services/kidney-transplant/index.html



**End-Stage Renal Disease
Network of the South Atlantic**

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