Our Program

In 1959, Oregon Health & Science University performed the world’s eighteenth kidney transplant. Since then, thousands of patients have received new kidneys at OHSU. Kidney transplant success rates have increased dramatically, and OHSU is consistently ranked in the top 10% nationally for patient and kidney survival.

OHSU has been an active contributor to new transplant technologies in areas such as surgical techniques, organ procurement and preservation, donor and recipient matching, recipient preparation, immunosuppression regimens, and prevention and treatment of complications. Patients always benefit from early access to new technologies, research and innovation.

OHSU has the highest quality team of professionals who work closely with patients throughout the transplant process. Transplant team members include surgeons, nephrologists, registered nurse coordinators, registered dieticians, pharmacists, laboratory technologists, financial coordinators, and social workers.
Types of Transplants

Living Donor
Transplant success rates are highest for those patients who receive kidneys from living donors. We encourage both recipients and potential donors to learn more about living donation. For more information, please go to www.ohsu.edu/transplant → living kidney donation.

Deceased Donor
Deceased donor kidneys are obtained through local and national procurement organizations. The national deceased donor wait list for kidney and/or pancreas transplant grows daily, however, only a small percent of people receive kidney transplants from deceased donors annually. In addition to kidney transplant, OHSU offers simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants as well as pancreas-after-kidney transplants to Type I diabetics.

Your waiting time to transplant depends on many factors such as blood type, pediatric patient versus adult patient, when you started dialysis or were added to the waiting list, and previous exposure to foreign human tissues.

Family Education Class
Learn more about kidney transplant at our free class for patients with kidney disease and their families who want to learn more about kidney transplantation as a treatment option. To register, call 503 494-8500.

Why Choose Transplant?
For those with kidney failure, transplantation can offer significant benefits, the most important being:

- Increased life expectancy
- Improved quality of life
- Freedom from dialysis
- Fewer fluid and dietary restrictions

Referral Process
Your referring physician will need to refer you to Clinical Transplant Services as we do not accept self-referrals. For more information, go to www.ohsu.edu/transplant → about us → referrals.

Post-transplant Follow Up
After you receive your transplant you will be on a number of immunosuppressive (anti-rejection) medications. You will be followed closely by the OHSU transplant doctors and post-transplant nurse coordinators. After a few months, you will be referred back to your own doctors and OHSU will follow your care in partnership with them.

You are the most important member of your transplant team. After a transplant you will be required to monitor your health and take your medications exactly as they have been prescribed, each and every day. You will have blood tests and doctor visits on a regular basis.

After your successful transplant, the first few months can be very busy, however, with time, you will enjoy a more fulfilling and normal lifestyle.

For more information, go to www.ohsu.edu/transplant, or call 503 494-8500 or 800 452-1369 ext. 48500