

Kidney Transplant Program Roadmap



Referral

Patients are contacted by a team member within 2 days of referral receipt. Pre-dialysis patients are scheduled within 2 weeks.

Requirements to refer

- Age < 85
- BMI ≤ 45
- GFR ≤ 25 ml/min
- Diagnosis of CKD 4/5

How to refer

1. EPIC (EMR)
2. Fax: 617-726-0882
3. Physician Gateway
4. Secure e-form



Scan for e-Form



Evaluation

Initial assessment of a patient's medical and psychosocial history, including minimal lab tests*, to determine program candidacy.

* Additional required tests are completed at Readiness.

Multidisciplinary team

- Transplant nephrologist
- Transplant surgeon
- Transplant registered nurse coordinator
- Transplant nutritionist
- Social worker
- Financial coordinator

Available resources

- Dedicated care team
- Kidney recipient education
- Guide to living donation
- Access to National Kidney Registry's paired-exchange program
- Rapidly growing robot-assisted surgery program
- Health and nutrition coaching
- Virtual group visits
- Genetic testing
- Guide to finding supplemental financial resources

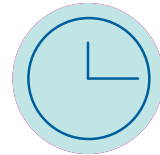


Selection

Based on a careful review and Mass General's selection criteria, the multidisciplinary team determines the patient's eligibility for transplant.

Potential committee decisions

1. Accept
 - » Active
 - » Inactive
2. Defer
3. Decline



Waitlisting

The patient is listed on the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) waitlist within a week of acceptance.

Accepted patients will accrue time on the waitlist regardless of status. Only active patients can move on to Readiness.



Readiness

Through care coordination and communication, we ensure that every patient is ready to receive an organ offer as soon as possible.

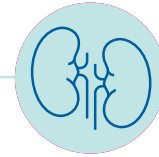
To prepare for kidney transplant

- Be in good health
- Maintain healthy habits and weight
- Be up to date on required vaccinations, health screenings and lab/imaging tests

Patients near the top of the waitlist are cleared for an organ offer once s/he has completed evaluation and tests.

Determinants of an organ offer

- Position on waitlist
- Blood type
- Level of sensitization
- Acceptance of "opportunity" kidney



Transplant

Location of procedure

The transplant surgery takes place at 55 Fruit St, Boston, MA 02114—Mass General Hospital, main campus.



After Transplant

During the three-day stay in the hospital, the patient recovers under the care of our skilled inpatient team.

Before discharge

Our team customizes and reviews the patient's medication regimen and care action plan.

Graft maintenance

Our post-transplant care team provides ongoing care throughout the life of the patient's new kidney, making necessary changes to the care plan to extend the transplanted kidney's survival.

Kidney Living Donor Program Roadmap



Intake

The potential donor (PD) completes a questionnaire that is assessed by the donor team for kidney donation suitability. Information shared is kept confidential.



Scan for Questionnaire

After applying, a member of the team contacts the PD for intake. The PD receives a welcome packet, completes consent forms and shares requested medical records.

Once consents and initial review are complete, the PD will be contacted by the independent living donor advocate (ILDA). Screening labs (blood, urine, and other as needed) will be ordered by the coordinator to evaluate kidney function.



Review & Initial Testing

If the screening labs are favorable the PD is invited to attend a multidisciplinary clinic (MDC) evaluation.

Multidisciplinary team

- Transplant nephrologist
- Transplant surgeon
- Transplant registered nurse coordinator
- Social worker
- Independent Living Donor Advocate (ILDA)
- Transplant psychiatrist
- Living donor dietitian

Available resources

- Option for virtual evaluation
- Independent Living Donor Advocate
- Guide to living donation
- Access to remote or advanced donation through paired-exchange
- Guide to finding supplemental financial resources
- Robot-assisted surgery program
- Post-donation follow-up care



Evaluation MDC 1

Includes:

- Education session with a nurse coordinator
- Visits with a nephrologist, a social worker, and additional specialists, if needed



Evaluation MDC 2

After MDC 1, if suitable, the PD comes to MGH to complete the work-up:

- Abdominal CT scan
- Chest X-ray
- Cardiac testing
- A second ABO blood typing
- Human leukocyte antigen (HLA) testing
- Visits with a transplant surgeon, ILDA, and other specialists, including psychiatry, if needed



Selection

The Multidisciplinary Selection Committee reviews the PD candidacy and determines suitability for donation.

Potential committee decisions

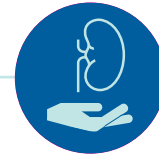
1. Approve
2. Decline
3. Defer

The candidate is kept informed throughout the process.



Before Donation

Once the PD is approved and the intended recipient is ready for the transplant, a surgery date is scheduled. Two weeks ahead of this date, the PD will come to MGH for education, additional lab tests, screenings, and to sign consent forms.



Donation

Location of procedure

The nephrectomy, removal of donor kidney, takes place at the Mass General Hospital main campus.

Before discharge

The donor stays in the hospital for two days in addition to the surgery. The nurse coordinator, social worker, and ILDA visit with the donor.



After Donation

The donor completes an online follow-up questionnaire, lab testing, and returns for follow-up (virtual or in person), 10 days, 6 months, 1 year, and 2 years after donation.

The donor is welcome to receive additional follow-up care at Mass General Hospital Transplant Center, as needed.