

There are 19 transplant centers in Network 4. The website address is also included so that you may review their site for questions regarding kidney transplantation.

Alfred I duPont Institute
Wilmington, Delaware
302/651-4888
www.duponthospital.org

Albert Einstein Medical Center
Philadelphia, PA
215/456-6933
www.einstein.edu

Allegheny General Hospital
Pittsburgh, PA
412/359-6800
www.wpahs.org

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA
1-800-TRY-CHOP
www.chop.edu

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
412/692-6110
www.chp.edu

Christiana Care Health System
Newark, DE
302/623-3862
www.christianacare.org

Geisinger Health System
Transplant Center
Danville, PA
1-877-821-8613
www.geisinger.org/
services/transplant

Geisinger Wyoming
Valley Transplant Center
Wilkes-Barre, PA
1-800-645-1228
www.geisinger.org/
services/transplant

Hahnemann University Hospital
Philadelphia, PA
215/762-1857
www.hahnemannhospital.com

University of Pennsylvania Health System
Philadelphia, PA
1-800-458-2548
www.health.upenn.edu

Lankenau Hospital
Wynnewood, PA
610/645-8485
www.mainlinehealth.org/lh

Lehigh Valley Hospital
Allentown, PA
610/402-8506
www.lvhn.org

M.S. Hershey Medical Center
Hershey, PA
717/531-6209
www.hmc.psu.edu

Pinnacle Health
Harrisburg, PA
1-877-778-6110
www.pinnaclehealth.org

St. Christopher's Hospital for Children
Philadelphia, PA
215/427-5190
www.stchristophershospital.com

Temple University Hospital
Philadelphia, PA
215/707-8889
www.health.temple.edu/
tuh

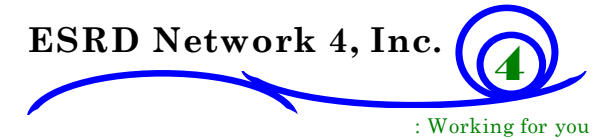
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
Philadelphia, PA
215/955-7625
www.jeffersonhealthsystem.org

UPMC Health System-
Presbyterian
Pittsburgh, PA
1-877-640-6746
www.sti.upmc.edu

VA of Pittsburgh Healthcare System
Pittsburgh, PA
412/688-6181
www.va.gov/pittsburgh

This publication is funded under CMS Contract #HHSM-500-2006-NW004C with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Baltimore, Maryland. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy.

Network 4 Publication Number: pbb-002-062008



KEY INFORMATION ABOUT KIDNEY TRANSPLANT



ESRD NETWORK 4, INC.
Organ Procurement/Transplantation Committee
40 24th Street, Suite 410
The Crane Building
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222
412/325-2250
Toll Free Line for Patients Only:
1-800/548-9205
www.esrdnetwork4.org

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT KIDNEY TRANSPLANT

Kidney transplant is a surgical procedure that involves removing a functional organ (kidney) from either a deceased or living donor. The kidney is implanted in a patient to replace the non-functional organ.

Kidney transplants are performed at a hospital that is approved to furnish transplantation, as well as, other medical and surgical services for the care of ESRD transplant patients.

What are my options for kidney transplantation?

(1) **Living Donor** – Living person who donates organs for transplantation. Living donor may be spouses, cousins, siblings or even friends, or an unselfish stranger.

(2) **Cadaveric Donor** – An individual whose organs (kidneys) are donated after his or her death.

(3) **Non-designated Donation** – With no specific person in mind, you decide to donate a kidney to help someone on the general kidney transplant waiting list.

What type of surgery is involved?

Traditional surgery – An incision is made in the donor's side to remove the kidney. The advantage of this surgery to the donor is that the procedure takes less time to perform than laparoscopic surgery.

Laparoscopic Donor Nephrectomy – This procedure requires four small incisions in the donor's abdomen. It involves fewer scars, less pain and a shorter recovery time than traditional surgery.

Who can be a living donor?

Anyone at least 18 years of age with good health and a desire to help others could be evaluated for donating a kidney. To determine if you would be a good candidate for donating, the transplant team would perform a complete evaluation.

How does a person in need of a transplant benefit from living donation?

The operation can be planned and performed effectively, avoiding the long waiting list for cadaveric donors. Since the kidney is removed and immediately placed in the recipient, it enhances the probability of success following transplantation. Longevity of the transplanted kidney is potentially greater when obtained from a living donor.

How would someone donate a kidney?

There is a living donor program that offers different ways for living donors to donate. You can donate to someone you know or to a non-designated person.

Designated Donation – To donate to someone you know, you and the person to whom you want to donate would contact the transplant center to coordinate your evaluation for transplantation.

Non-Designated Donation – There is a living organ donor registry at the Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs). The living organ donor registry work is managed by your local OPO.

You can contact your OPO for help. OPOs are federally designated, not for profit organizations that work with hospitals throughout the country to provide the organs for transplantation. There are two OPOs in the Network:

Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE) RIDC Park 204 Sigma Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15238 1-800/366-6777 www.core.org	Gift of Life Donor Program 401 North Third Street Philadelphia, PA 19123 1-800/543-6391 www.donors1.org
--	--

What if I don't have a donor?

If you don't have a donor, you can be put on a waiting list for a kidney transplant. After you have had been evaluated medically and psychosocially and there are no medical reasons, you will be placed on the United Network Organ Sharing (UNOS) transplant waiting list.

Well, what is UNOS?

The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), a nonprofit charitable organization, maintains the nation's organ transplant waiting list under contract with the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. There is a lot of good information about transplantation on UNOS' website – www.unos.org.