

TRANSPLANT CENTER UPDATES



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Living Donor Organ Transplant

Giving patients the right team, the best care, a solid option

Approximately 98,000 individuals in the United States, including 2,200 individuals in the State of Michigan, are on the deceased donor waitlist for a new kidney or liver transplant. For most patients, transplant offers an improved quality of life. These patients

often wait a long period of time on the deceased donor waitlist before matching for an organ, and their condition may become progressively worse, which can lead to individuals no longer being a candidate for transplant.

University of Michigan Health Transplant Center leads the state of Michigan in total living donor transplants, a proven practice and solid option for adult and pediatric patients in need of a kidney or liver.

Our Living Donor Kidney and Liver Programs allow patients the opportunity to receive transplants sooner, when their disease is not as advanced, and their probability of long-term survival is greater. The living donor transplant is a planned surgery that allows patients to be prepared and make the necessary arrangements prior to the surgery.

Our experienced transplant team provides all future organ recipients with the support and tools they need to navigate the transplant journey. For those in need of a kidney or liver, this may include searching for a living donor to shorten their wait time for transplant.

At U-M Health Transplant Center, potential living donors are carefully evaluated by an interdisciplinary team of transplant professionals, including an Independent Living Donor Advocate whose role is to advocate for the best interests of each donor and protect donor rights and decisions.

The Living Donor team provides education to each recipient and their potential donors on the pathways to living donor transplant and shares learning sessions about living donation.

Important offerings about living donation:

- Education sessions such as ***Facts and Myths of Living Donation*** and ***Big Ask Big Give*** are held several times throughout the year. These sessions, intended for potential recipients and potential living donors, focus on education regarding the risks and benefits of living donation and provide strategies and tools for recipients and their advocates on ways to potentially find a living donor.
[Learn about Living and Paired Kidney Donation](#)
[Learn about Living Liver Donation](#)
- Our [Paired Kidney Donation Program](#) provides increased opportunities for recipients who have a suitable donor but may be incompatible or may not be the optimal donor for them based on other factors. We are connected with national programs, including United Network for Organ Sharing Paired Kidney Exchange and Alliance for Paired Donation, which allow for matches across the United States. As a result of our Paired Kidney Donation Program more than 200 recipients have been transplanted at our center.
- Our [Transplant Peer Mentor Program](#) brings together patients who have successfully undergone a transplant, or those who have donated an organ, with pre-transplant patients, prospective living donors and their families. The peer mentors' first-hand knowledge is intended to help everyone involved to understand the transplant experience.

As a referring physician, you can be confident your patients will receive the highest level of care and support by our experienced transplant team, including living donor specialists for kidney and liver transplant. The collaborative work among our dedicated teams continues to improve speed to transplant, enabling us to provide safe, timely and personalized care as we strive to save more lives than ever before.

Contact Us

For more information about the University of Michigan Health Living Donor Program, call M-LINE at 800-962-3555.