



Kidney Transplant Recipient Selection Criteria

This document explains the criteria the Sharp HealthCare Kidney Transplant Program uses to evaluate and accept kidney transplant candidates. Patients referred for transplant are accepted for evaluation regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender or sexual orientation. All patients with end-stage renal disease are individually reviewed to determine their candidacy for kidney transplantation.

The transplant team evaluates three types of criteria to determine whether you may receive a kidney transplant.

Inclusion Criteria to Kidney Transplant (Transplant Eligibility)

To be considered for transplant evaluation, patients must meet the following:

- End-stage renal disease
- Demonstrated ability to follow the prescribed medical regimen
- Medically cleared for transplantation

Absolute Exclusion Criteria to Kidney Transplant

Meeting the eligibility criteria above does not necessarily mean you are a kidney transplant candidate. If you have any of the conditions listed below, you are not a candidate:

- Active infection or untreated malignancy
- Psychosocial maladaptive behavior
- Uncorrectable non-renal disease or pregnancy
- Limited life expectancy due to non-renal conditions
- Severe debilitation without potential for recovery
- Lack of adequate caregiver support
- Insufficient resources for post-transplant care
- Comorbidities that would reduce the benefit of transplant, including patient survival and continued function of the transplanted kidney
- Active tobacco use; abstinence is required prior to listing, with exceptions considered by the committee
- Alcohol or substance use; abstinence is required prior to listing, with exceptions considered by the committee
- Active marijuana smoking or vaping is not permitted; oral use may be allowed

Organ Acceptance Criteria

Each organ offer is evaluated on an individual basis, with careful consideration of organ quality and patient safety, to support the best possible transplant outcome for patients. When evaluating a potential organ offer, the transplant team considers several medical and logistical factors to ensure the best possible clinical outcome. These include, but are not limited to:

- Kidney function and cause of death
- Donor age, health status, social and medical history
- Kidney Donor Profile Index (KDPI) metrics
- Blood type and tissue compatibility
- Infectious disease testing results
- Overall infection risk profile
- Logistical considerations, including cold ischemic time

The Sharp Kidney Transplant Program may also consider organs from donors with hepatitis B and other conditions, or from donors identified as having an increased risk for certain infections, when allowed under federal regulations and with the patient's documented informed consent.

Living Kidney Donor Selection Criteria

This document explains the criteria the Sharp HealthCare Kidney Transplant Program uses to evaluate and accept living kidney donor candidates. Individuals may self-refer to our program and will be considered for living kidney donor evaluation without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender or sexual orientation.

Inclusion Criteria for Living Kidney Donation (Living Donor Eligibility)

- **For directed donations:** Adult; minimum age of 18 and mentally capable of making an informed decision
- **For non-directed donations:** Adult; minimum age of 25 and mentally capable of making an informed decision
- If female, not pregnant
- HIV negative
- Hepatitis B surface antigen negative
- Body mass index (BMI) less than 35

Absolute Exclusion Criteria for Living Kidney Donation

Meeting the eligibility criteria above does not necessarily mean you are a living kidney donor candidate. If you have any of the conditions listed below, you are not a candidate.

- Age younger than 18 for directed donations or younger than 25 for non-directed donations
- Evidence of renal disease or a diagnosis that has a high risk of causing renal dysfunction
- Mentally incapable of making an informed decision
- Systemic disease that would specifically preclude living kidney donation
- Uncontrolled hypertension (high blood pressure) or history of hypertension with evidence of end-stage organ damage
- Diabetes
- Active malignancy or incompletely treated malignancy
- High suspicion of donor coercion or of illegal financial exchange between donor and recipient
- Evidence of acute symptomatic infection (until resolved)
- Diagnosable psychiatric conditions requiring treatment before donation, including any evidence of suicidal thoughts
- BMI higher than 35
- HIV positive, hepatitis C virus (HCV) RNA positive, or hepatitis B surface antigen positive