



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 (dialysis dependent)
- Estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) less than or equal to 20 cc/min

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
- Active cancer or treated cancer within the surveillance period
- Pregnancy
- Advanced cardiac, pulmonary or liver disease, or other non-renal advanced disease
- Severe vascular disease
- Uncontrolled diabetes (HbA1c higher than 9%)
- BMI higher than 40
- Active wound
- The anticipated risks of transplantation outweigh the expected benefits, including patient survival, quality of life, and long-term allograft function
- Significant debilitation without potential for rehabilitation
- Uncontrolled psychiatric illness impairs the ability to safely undergo transplantation or adhere to treatment
- Psychosocial, behavioral or support concerns that impair the ability to successfully complete transplantation or post-transplant care, including lack of caregiver support, housing instability, inadequate financial resources, inability to maintain communication with the transplant team or psychosocial maladaptive behaviors
- Alcohol and substance use; a contract or documented discussion with transplant staff and a period of abstinence is required prior to active transplant listing and continued screening tests may be required; exceptions by Selection Committee review only

- Active smoking or vaping marijuana; oral marijuana use is permitted
- Active nicotine use
- Behavior that is disruptive, threatening, abusive or otherwise impedes the provision of safe and effective patient care
- Lack of insurance coverage necessary to support transplantation and ongoing post-transplant care
- Patient decision not to pursue transplantation
- Well enough that transplant is not indicated

Relative Exclusion Criteria to Kidney Transplant

If you have any of the conditions listed below, your case will require review by the Kidney Transplant Selection Committee. These conditions may affect your candidacy for transplantation and may require additional testing or consultations before a final decision can be made.

- Chronic low blood pressure
- History of rapid recurrence of native kidney disease after a previous kidney transplant
- Chronic opioid use
- Detectable HIV viral load or CD4 count less than 200 cells/mL
- Incomplete transplant evaluation, including failure to complete required medical, psychosocial, financial or diagnostic testing within established program timelines
- Current or documented non-adherence with medical therapy
- Active systemic disease (for example, systemic lupus, Wegener's, sickle cell)

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 21 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
- Body mass index (BMI) lower than 35
- No contraindications to living kidney donation

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 21 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 cancer or incompletely treated cancer
- 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
- Advanced cardiovascular, peripheral vascular, liver or pulmonary disease that places the donor at unacceptable surgical or long-term health risk

- Current use of nicotine, tobacco, marijuana, smoking products or vaping, with unwillingness to stop
- Persistent urinary tract infections and/or history of recurrent infections
- Pregnancy
- Creatinine clearance less than 80 mL/min in donors under 65
- Creatinine clearance less than 75 mL/min in donors older than 65
- Measured or estimated creatinine clearance below the expected normal range for age, including borderline results that are disproportionately low for the donor's age
- Microalbuminuria greater than 30 mg/24hrs
- Significant urologic or vascular abnormalities
- Individual does not wish to pursue donation
- Unresolved alcohol or history of untreated substance use
- Behavior that is disruptive, threatening, abusive or otherwise impedes the provision of safe and effective patient care

Relative Exclusion Criteria for Living Kidney Donation

If you have any of the conditions listed below, your suitability for kidney donation may require additional medical evaluation and review by the Living Donor Selection Committee. Further testing or consultations may be necessary before a final decision can be made.

- Limited or lack of or insufficient family, caregiver, social and/or economic support
- Lack of adequate health insurance or ability to access required post-donation follow-up care
- History of complicated and/or multiple kidney stones