PRESBYTERIAN
Transplant Services

Fall 2022 Newsletter

Presbyterian Transplant Services provides a multidisciplinary team approach with a focus on patient care throughout every step of the transplant process. Our team of medical professionals is devoted to providing quality care to all individuals through advocacy, education and mutual respect. We are proud to be the only multiorgan transplant program in the state of New Mexico, providing options for kidney and pancreas transplantation to the residents of New Mexico and surrounding areas. A kidney and/or pancreas transplant can be a life-changing gift. Our dedicated team would like to help you navigate the process.

Presbyterian Transplant Services
201 Cedar St. SE, Suite 820
Albuquerque, NM 87106

P.O. Box 26666
Albuquerque, NM 87125-666.

Call Toll-free (800) 597-7217
Office (505) 841-1434
Fax (505) 563-6137

A department of Presbyterian Hospital.

CDSSURG-164 1222

How the Transplant Process Works:

Referral

The evaluation for a kidney or kidney/pancreas transplant begins with a referral to Presbyterian Transplant Services. This referral can be made by your primary care physician, your nephrologist (kidney doctor), your dialysis unit or you can refer yourself. A referral request can be made in the electronic medical record by your medical provider or by a phone call to Transplant Services at (505) 841-1434 or by fax at (505) 563-6137.

Intake Information

Once we receive your referral, a member of the team will call you for an approximately 30-minute conversation to go over your demographic information (such as name, address, phone number), insurance information, and detailed medical information (such as the cause of your kidney disease and other medical problems). Please make sure to include the correct phone number to call you for this intake. If we are not able to reach you after three tries, we will mail a letter to the address listed and to the referring medical provider. Your referral file will be closed at that time, but another referral can always be placed whenever you are ready to restart the process. We work with many insurance providers including those listed on the next page. At times, we may be able to work with other insurance carriers as well.

Orientation

Once you have completed the initial intake with a transplant team member over the phone, a new patient packet will be mailed to the address you provided. This information will give you, your family, and any potential living donors an overview of the transplant process. We know that this is often a lot of new information, but we are here to help guide you through all steps in the transplant process.

Forms to Complete

In the new patient packet, you will receive other forms to fill out. Please sign and return these to us. These forms are the Release of Medical Information (ROI), the Background Information Form for New Patients, and the Informed Consent acknowledgement. These forms are needed for us to obtain your medical history, provide information for our social workers as part of your evaluation and help in the next steps of your transplant process. Once we have this information and can request any outside records we may need, a chart will be created for you and reviewed by one of our pre-transplant nurse coordinators to move forward to the evaluation phase. These forms can also be found on our website for download at phs.org/transplant.

Evaluation

There are multiple appointments and tests that are part of the evaluation process. You will be contacted by the transplant clinic scheduler, and an initial evaluation will be scheduled at your convenience. At the initial evaluation, you will meet with a pre-transplant coordinator who has been assigned to you, and this coordinator will be the primary contact to guide you through the transplant evaluation process. You will also meet with a transplant nephrologist (a medical kidney doctor), a transplant surgeon (a surgical kidney doctor) and a social worker. These meetings are scheduled in our clinic, often all in one day to avoid multiple trips to our clinic, but it does make for a long day. If you have time constraints, they can also be scheduled on different days.

In addition to meeting with the transplant multidisciplinary team, you will also need to complete additional testing, which will include things such as lab work, imaging, cardiac testing, dental check-up and appointments with other providers. For example, most patients will need to meet with a cardiologist (heart doctor). Some patients may need to meet with a gastroenterologist (GI) doctor or urologist, based on past medical history. A list of the tests and appointments can be found in the new patient packet and on our website.

Transplant Selection Committee

Your evaluation is complete once you have met with all the required team members and had all of the required testing. This process can vary in time based on what your specific needs are and depending on your medical problems. You can help speed up the process by attending all your evaluation appointments as scheduled.

Once your evaluation is completed, your information will be presented to the multidisciplinary transplant team for review. The team will make a group decision based on your medical testing whether you are a candidate for transplant. Once the decision is made, your pre-transplant coordinator will talk about the decision to you in a phone call and a letter. If approved, you will be placed on the National United Network of Organ (UNOS) waitlist and notified when an organ is available for transplant.

For more information and statistics about transplant, visit these websites:

www.phs.org/transplant

www.transplantliving.org

www.srtr.org

https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov

www.informate.org

Presbyterian's Transplant Services can help you understand your individual treatment needs and decide if an organ transplant is right for you.

Accepted Insurances:

- ☑ Aetna
- ☑ Amerigroup Medicare
- ☑ BCBS Commercial plans
- ☑ Medicare
- ☑ Medicaid
- ☑ Optum Health - UHC, NMMIP, True Health
- ☑ PHP Commercial, ASO, Centennial and Medicare
- ☑ Tricare
- ☑ Western Sky Community Care, Medicare and Centennial