



Kidney and Pancreas Transplant

Patient Criteria for Selection

In order for you to receive a transplant, you must meet certain requirements. Tests will be performed to find out if you are a candidate for transplant. This document will explain the requirements for transplant.

Requirements for Kidney Transplant

A patient must:

- Have severe kidney disease that is not reversible or be on dialysis
- Be able to come to follow-up appointments
- Have the ability to complete the medical evaluation in less than six months
- Be able to take all medicines as directed
- Be able to benefit from the transplant
- Have an evaluation and clearance by the transplant social worker
- Be healthy enough to have surgery
- Have the ability to pay for the post-transplant regimen (for example: medications) while not significantly compromising the patient's required living expenses
- Have a caregiver for the post-operative period. Caregiver must meet with the Transplant Social Worker
- Have an acceptable BMI
- Have no current substance use

There are some things that may hinder you from being able to have a transplant. These include:

- Serious psychiatric illness
- Chronic or recurrent GI diseases
- Serious liver disease
- Serious heart disease
- Serious lung disease
- Ongoing substance abuse (drugs, alcohol) or use of tobacco
- Obesity
- Active disease like Lupus, Wegener's or Sickle Cell
- Cancer (There will be a waiting time after your cancer before we can give you a transplant. The waiting time will depend on the type of cancer you have.)
- Poor circulation to the legs or problems in other blood vessels
- Non-functioning lower urinary tract
- Inability to provide caregiver(s)
- Certain infections that cannot be treated well and/or an active infection
- Not being able to follow the medical directions given to you by your kidney doctor

Additional Requirements for Pancreas Transplant

A patient must:

- Have Type 1 Diabetes requiring insulin for more than 5 years
- Have pancreatic insufficiency with c-peptide of less than or equal to 2 ng/ml
- Require the procurement or transplantation of a pancreas as part of a multiple organ transplant for technical reasons.
- Be 45 years of age or less

Each patient is evaluated on an individual basis and the transplant doctor will discuss your case with you.

This information was created and reviewed through a partnership with the UAMS Patient and Family Advisory Councils and the UAMS Center for Health Literacy.