



# Liver Transplant

## Patient Criteria for Selection

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In order for you to receive a liver 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 Liver Transplant**

#### ***A patient must:***

- Have severe liver disease such that the life is threatened
- Have no effective alternative course of treatment or when treatment has been shown to be ineffective (*These patients will have end-stage liver disease with a life expectancy of less than 12 months.*)
- Be healthy enough to have surgery
- Be able to take all medicines as directed
- Have good support from family and/or friends and dependable transportation to and from the hospital.
- Be able to afford the treatments and medicines that are needed
- Have not used alcohol and/or drugs for at least three months
- Have a caregiver for the post-operative period. Caregiver must meet with Social Worker.
- Have an evaluation and clearance by the transplant social worker.
- Benefit by an overall improvement in health with liver transplantation.

#### **There are some things that may hinder you from being able to have a transplant.**

#### **These include:**

- Cancer that has not had a 2-5 year remission period not including non-melanoma skin cancers
- Having an active infection or sepsis
- Ongoing use of drugs and/or alcohol
- A history of not following medical advice
- Having an irreversible neurological condition that prevents understanding of the condition and needed treatment
- Having a complete blockage of blood to the liver
- Having advanced heart or lung disease
- A Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 38
- Serious psychiatric illness
- Physical debility

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