Kidney Donation Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Once my evaluation is complete and I’m approved for donation, will I be scheduled right away for surgery?
A: Not necessarily. Recipients are evaluated at the same time as donors and so there may be a delay waiting for completion of recipient evaluation.

Q: What if I am selected as a back up donor but am interested in donating to someone else?
A: One non directed donation can start a chain of exchange transplants! Please contact us at 312-695-0828 so we can discuss the non directed donation process.

Q: I have been selected as a back up donor, does that mean I will not donate?
A: Potential donors are usually evaluated one at a time. If the primary donor cannot continue, we will reach out to the next potential donor.

Evaluation Process you will receive an initial phone call once you’ve been selected for evaluation

Phase 1 – Initial Screening
All testing should be scheduled within 4 weeks of initial phone call.

1. All potential donors to complete:
   - Introduction to Independent Donor Advocate (IDA) – by telephone
   - Cancer screenings based on age and gender
   - E-health and Care Everywhere consent forms (allow care team to access your medical information)
   - Sign up for NM MyChart®

2. If needed – transplant team will contact you to schedule the following:
   - Diabetes testing
   - 24-hour urine collection
   - 24-hour blood pressure testing
   - Blood typing
   - Psychosocial evaluation with social worker

Phase 2 – Full day work up
If you, as the donor, pass phase 1, the transplant center will contact you to schedule a donor full day work up.

This work up includes:
- Meeting with your IDA
- Lab blood work
- Urine studies
- Renal Function Test
- CT scan
- Physician evaluation
- Meeting with Social Worker

Phase 3 – Completing the Evaluation
The remaining evaluation items should be complete within 5 weeks of the full day work up.

1. All potential donors to complete:
   - Post donation support plan verification

2. If needed – transplant team will contact you to schedule the following:
   - 24 hour blood pressure testing
   - Diabetes testing
   - Additional Psychology evaluation
   - Any testing required related to other findings (usually with primary care provider)

Transplant contacts
- Your surgeon will be determined by the surgical schedule
- Your transplant nurse coordinator (TNC) will be your primary contact, assigned at start of your recipient’s evaluation
- Your IDA will be available for any concerns about the donation process

To contact your TNC please use NM MyChart® to send a message (MyChart Messaging tip sheet for instructions) or call 312.925.0828