

ABOUT THE **METHODIST TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE**

The Methodist Transplant Institute at Methodist University Hospital and Le Bonheur Children's Hospital is a leader in the field of organ transplantation. Our highly skilled, multidisciplinary team provides comprehensive, patient-centered liver and kidney transplant care for children and adults, as well as adult pancreas transplantation. We also offer living donor kidney transplantation as a treatment option.

We are proud of our dedication to quality and our exceptional outcomes. You can find our most recent outcomes at www.srtr.org through the Scientific Registry for Transplant Recipients.

Our transplant team offers specialized, multidisciplinary, comprehensive care and strives to improve the quality of life and life expectancy for our transplant patients. We strive for excellence in surgical techniques and meticulous post-operative care.

QUESTIONS & REFERRALS

If you are interested in kidney transplantation, talk to your doctor about referring you to our program for evaluation.

For more information, call **901.478.9183** or visit our website at **www.methodisthealth.org/transplant**.

Methodist℠ Transplant Institute

www.methodisthealth.org/transplant

PS004321.0526

Kidney Transplantation



Methodist℠ Transplant Institute

WHAT IS KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION?

You may be a candidate for kidney transplantation if your kidneys are not working properly or dialysis is required to do their work. A new kidney, from a deceased donor or a living donor, can be surgically placed in your body. With proper care, medication, lab work and clinic appointments, your new kidney can function like a normal kidney, filtering waste products, excess water and other impurities out of the blood.

TYPES OF KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION

Living Donor Kidney Transplantation

Individuals have the option of donating a kidney to someone in need. Kidneys from living donors tend to last longer than those from a deceased donor. These surgeries can also be planned ahead of time, limiting the time a recipient may have to stay on the national waiting list. Paired kidney exchange, or a donor swapping program, may be an option for you and an incompatible donor through the Alliance for Paired Kidney Donation. To learn more, visit www.PairedDonation.org.

Deceased Donor Kidney Transplantation

Most patients are placed on a national waiting list for a deceased donor kidney. When a healthy person experiences a traumatic event resulting in brain death, the undamaged organs may be saved and donated, with the family's permission, for transplantation.

WHO IS A CANDIDATE FOR A KIDNEY TRANSPLANT?

Referred patients will complete an evaluation to determine whether transplant is the best treatment option. Individuals will meet with our transplant team for education and evaluation. We will complete various medical exams and tests to ensure the safety of this surgical procedure. Not everyone is a transplant candidate. This evaluation process helps ensure that the benefits of transplantation outweigh any risks that may be involved.

HOW DOES THE WAIT LIST WORK?

Once our team determines you are a candidate for kidney transplantation, you will be placed on the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) national waiting list for a compatible organ to become available.

Patients are matched to an organ based on blood and tissue compatibility, how long the patient has been on dialysis and other medical factors. To learn more, visit www.unos.org.

Our team will notify you when a match occurs and will instruct you on preparing for surgery.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

When called in for transplantation, you will complete pre-operative testing prior to surgery. The surgery should last approximately 2- 3 hours and your post-operative hospital stay will be approximately 3-4 days.

During your hospital stay, we will teach you about your transplant medications and give instructions on your follow-up care. You will be closely followed in our post-transplant clinic after you leave the hospital. This includes regular clinic and lab appointments and medications to ensure your kidney will last a very long time. Kidney transplant is a treatment option, not a cure. It is important to follow your post-transplant medical regimen to ensure the best outcomes for your kidney.

"You knew that they were on your side the whole time, and it was so uplifting."

– **Annabeth,** *Kidney Transplant Recipient*

"Everybody I came in contact with had a great attitude, and they just made me feel great."

– **Michael,** *Kidney Transplant Recipient*



Annabeth and **Michael** both received kidney transplants at the **Methodist Transplant Institute.**

