

Kidney Donation

Frequently Asked Questions



Who pays for the kidney donor's hospital costs?

The transplant recipient's health insurance generally covers the costs for the kidney donor. The transplant center can answer specific billing and financial questions. All non-medical expenses such as lost wages, child care, travel costs and daily living expenses that are incurred during the donation process are NOT covered. Therefore, it is important for donors to consider the financial impact of these possible expenses. Donors who qualify may be eligible to receive reimbursement for their travel and other qualified expenses from the Living Donor Assistance Program.

How would someone donate a kidney?

The transplant center has a living donor program that offers different ways for living donors to donate. You can donate to someone you know or to a non-designated person. If you are not a match for the person who you want to donate to, you can be entered into a paired exchange program and "swap" kidneys with another donor who is a better match.

You can contact your Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) for help. OPOs are federally-designated, not-for-profit organizations that work with hospitals throughout the county to provide organs for transplantation. There are two OPOs in Network 4:

Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE)

RIDC Park
204 Sigma Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
1-800-336-6777
www.core.org

Gift of Life Donor Program

401 North Third Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123
1-800-543-6391
www.donors1.org