

Kidney Selection Criteria

The Transplant Team makes a decision regarding the patient's suitability for transplant following established selection criteria and based on the patient's current medical and psychosocial status as well as the results of required testing. Exceptions to selection criteria are occasionally made at the discretion of the Transplant Physician.

Absolute Medical / Surgical Contraindications for Kidney Transplant Include:

- Severe Coronary Artery Disease
- Severe Heart Failure
- Severe Peripheral Vascular Disease
- Chronic infections (unresolved)
- Advanced Pulmonary Disease
- Advanced Liver Disease
- Metastatic Cancer
- Morbid Obesity with a BMI over 45 (Patients with a BMI of 42-45 will be assessed individually. There may be patients with a BMI less than 42 who may not be candidates based on the weight distribution or other factors. These cases are carefully considered by the transplant physicians and surgeons.)
- Age 81 or older (Age 75-81 must have a living donor and meet clinical criteria)

Absolute Psychosocial Contraindications for Kidney Transplant Include:

- Chronic proven non-compliance with medication and/or prescribed treatment(s)
- Poor social support including absence of confirmed caregiver during the immediate post-transplant period
- Absence of funding for transplant procedure and/or medications
- Active substance abuse*
- Untreated psychiatric condition(s), including suicide risk
- Severe psychiatric illness, uncontrolled with medication

*Psychiatric consultation/clearance may be indicated

Relative Exclusion Criteria

- Any combination of medical co-morbidities that unacceptably raise the risk of graft loss or patient death.

Kidney Transplant Protocol

Any adult patient with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), either on dialysis, or approaching dialysis, may be considered for kidney transplantation using the following as a guide for referral.

1. CKD with a GFR \leq 20 mL/min
2. All patients must complete the Candidate Education Program and evaluation/clearance by the multi-disciplinary team
3. In order to become active on the Transplant List, patients must complete the following tests:
 - Hepatitis profile, HIV, CBC with platelet count
 - PSA (Male candidates age 50 and older)
 - Chest x-ray (2-view CXR completed within the last year)
 - EKG (completed within the last year)
 - Nuclear Stress Test (candidates over the age of 50 or diabetic patients age <45)
 - Echocardiogram (2D) (completed within the last 2 years; some patients may require more recently depending on their clinical status)
 - Colonoscopy (All candidates over age 50)*
 - Mammogram (Female candidates between the ages of 45-54; every 2 years ages 55+)
 - Pap Smear (Female candidates over the age of 18)
 - For patients who test positive for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C or HIV, specific testing and protocols apply
 - Depending on a candidate's medical status, additional testing may be required

Transplant Referrals can be submitted online at:

www.rwjbh.org/kidneytransplantreferralform

by Fax at 973.322.8465 or by Phone at 973.322.5938

*some insurance companies require patients to complete colonoscopy at age 45+

Pancreas Selection Criteria

The Transplant Team makes a decision regarding the patient's suitability for transplant following established selection criteria and based on the patient's current medical and psychosocial status as well as the results of required testing.

For **SPK** (Simultaneous Pancreas Kidney Transplant) and **PAK** (Pancreas After Kidney Transplant), the patient **must first** undergo evaluation for kidney transplantation.

Absolute Contraindications for Pancreas Transplant:

Absolute contraindications are the same as for kidney transplantation (see page 1) with the following exceptions:

- HIV infection
- Hep B surface antigen positive
- Anti-coagulation therapy

Additionally, pancreas transplantation may be contraindicated in the presence of advanced, irreversible end organ damage since the benefit of this extensive procedure would be minimal. Examples include blindness, loss of extremities due to peripheral vascular disease, severe gastroparesis, and advanced autonomic and sensory neuropathy.

Recipient Selection Criteria (Simultaneous Kidney/Pancreas Transplant –SPK)

- Type 1 diabetes with C-peptide level ≤ 5
- Recommended BMI ≤ 32
- Type 2 diabetes with C-Peptide level ≤ 5 **and** insulin dependent
- Age less than or equal to 55 years for Type 1 diabetes
- Minimal abdominal surgery (Acceptable prior operations include PD catheter, appendectomy, and uncomplicated cholecystectomy)
- Negative stress test
- Coronary angiography strongly recommended for patients 45 years or greater
- Coronary angiography strongly recommended for patients with a history of diabetes 20 years or greater
- For patients with known re-vascularized, single vessel coronary artery disease, defined as the presence of cardiac stent/PTCA, stent must be at least two years old. Patient needs coronary angiography prior to listing. Patients with multiple cardiac stents will not be considered.
- For patients with lower extremity Peripheral artery disease (PAD), iliac arteries need to be disease free. Stents placed distal to iliac arteries will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Patients with PAD will need a CT scan.
- Patients may be on aspirin, but may not be on any additional antiplatelet medications
- Psychosocial considerations: patients should be highly motivated and understand what may be involved during post-operative recovery (i.e. the possibility of further operative procedures, re-hospitalization, close follow up in the clinic)
- Financial considerations: Medicare does cover SPK and PAK (Pancreas after Kidney) transplantation in the same way as kidney transplantation. Assessment and screening by the financial coordinator and transplant social worker are necessary to ensure adequate medical coverage as well as for medications and follow-up care required.