

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A TRANSPLANT CENTER

Choosing a transplant center is one of the biggest decisions you can make. Before you decide, consider these important things.



INSURANCE

Many insurance companies offer coverage for transplant costs. But, terms and benefits of different insurance policies can vary widely. Your insurance company may tell you to go to a specific transplant center.



LOCATION, TIME AND ACCESS

The distance and time it takes you to get to the transplant center is important. You will be traveling to the center when you are undergoing evaluation, waiting for a kidney, receiving a transplant and following up after your transplant. Ask if housing is available near the transplant center. Some transplant centers are in large cities where parking can be expensive. Find out if free or discounted parking is available.



COMPARING PROGRAMS

The best transplant center for you will depend on your situation. The Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) can provide you with information to help make an informed decision. Visit www.srtr.org to learn about the average wait time and survival rates for each transplant center.



LIVING DONOR TRANSPLANT

Ask the transplant center about living donor transplant. If you have a living donor, the center needs to be the right place for both you and for your donor.



LANGUAGE ACCOMMODATIONS

If you do not speak English, find out if your transplant center can provide someone to translate for you. You should always feel understood and informed throughout your treatment.



POST-TRANSPLANT CARE

Ask your transplant center about the short-term care available immediately after your transplant. After you get released and your local doctor takes over your care, ask how your doctor will continue to communicate with the transplant center.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. The more you know, the better your experience will be. Bring a family member or another person to support you. They may ask questions you did not think to ask. Remember – it is your choice whether or not to have a transplant and which transplant center is right for you.



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Adapted from the American Society of Transplantation's [Selecting a Transplant Center](#).

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