Northwestern Medicine

Understanding the *Process* for

Kidney Transplant Evaluation

Kidney Transplant Frequently Asked Questions

- Q: Once my evaluation is complete and I'm approved for kidney transplant, what are next steps?
- A: After your evaluation is complete, your transplant nurse coordinator (TNC) will contact you and add you to the Kidney Transplant waitlist. If you have a living donor with a completed evaluation, surgery will be scheduled at this time.
- Q: What if my donor is not a match?
- A: You can decide to be a part of our Kidney Paired Donation program with the potential of exchanging donors with another compatible donor and recipient pair.
- Q: What is happening with my donor's workup? Can you tell me about the results of my donor's testing?
- A: No, we cannot disclose private health information about your donor, but we will let you know when and if your donor is approved once they have been informed that their workup has been successfully completed.

Evaluation Process Throughout the evaluation, all patients will be reviewed by a multidisciplinary committee for approval where additional testing may be identified.

Prior to Transplant Orientation and Education Day (TOED)

We will need to collect your basic information and provide instructions to you, as the recipient, to begin the evaluation process.

- 1 All recipients to complete:
 - ☐ Post-transplant support plan
 - ☐ Financial verification if questions, patient will be contacted by financial liaison
 - ☐ If potential donors, have them complete a Donor BREEZE TRANSPLANT™ questionnaire at nmlivingdonor.org
 - ☐ EHealth and Care Everywhere consent (allows care team to access your medical information)
 - ☐ Sign up for NM MyChart®

TOED Appointment

TOED Objectives:

- Meet your transplant nurse coordinator (TNC) and other members of your care team as needed
- Learn about transplantation
- Initial physician evaluation
- Initial psychosocial evaluation with social work
- Dietician evaluation as needed

Evaluation Phase

For recipients with a donor being evaluated, recipient evaluation should be completed within 12 weeks after your TOED appointment.

- 1 All recipients to complete:
 - ☐ Lab work
 - ☐ Blood tests for your risk of rejection (PRA/HLA)
 - Cancer screenings based on age and gender
 - ☐ Post transplant support plan verification

- 2 Transplant team to initiate as needed:
 - CT scan
 - ☐ Additional Psychology evaluation
 - Cardiology evaluation
 - Infectious disease evaluation
 - ☐ Other specialties as needed
 - Additional insurance authorization



Transplant Contacts

- Surgeon will be determined by the surgery schedule
- Your transplant nurse coordinator TNC will be your primary contact (assigned at TOED)

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