

# Kidney Transplant Recipient Acceptance Criteria

We consider several factors when evaluating patients for a kidney transplant. Here's what you need to know:

## Who may be considered for a transplant

- Adults 18 years or older
- People who have advanced kidney disease or are starting dialysis
  - Kidney function may be measured by eGFR < 20 or Creatinine Clearance < 20

## Reasons you may not be eligible (absolute contraindications)

Some conditions mean a transplant is not safe or recommended at this time:

- Active cancer (eligibility depends on the type of cancer)
- Active infections, including certain viruses
- Current substance use (drug tests may be required)
- Untreated mental health conditions (like psychosis)
- Chronic wounds that do not heal
- Oxalosis (a rare kidney-related condition)
- Limited family, social, or financial support
- Not following current medical treatments
- Active Hepatitis B infection
- Dependence on home oxygen
- Current or recent incarceration/parole
  - Patients in jail or on parole may need to resolve these legal issues before being considered, as continuity of care is very important.

## Conditions that may make a transplant risky (relative contraindications)

Some health factors may affect eligibility or require further evaluation:

- Severe heart, blood vessel, or lung disease
- Cognitive difficulties
- Obesity (BMI over 45)
- Advanced liver disease
- Current substance or tobacco use
- Age over 75
- Difficulty with daily activities
- Malnutrition or very low body weight
- Poorly controlled diabetes
- Previous organ transplant (other than a kidney)
- Challenges following the medical treatment plan or meeting financial requirements

## When re-transplantation may be needed

- If a previous kidney transplant fails, and there are no other health concerns, or
- If kidney function drops to eGFR < 20 or Creatinine Clearance < 20