



Penn Medicine  
Transplant Institute

# Kidney Transplant Process

Kidney and Pancreas Transplant

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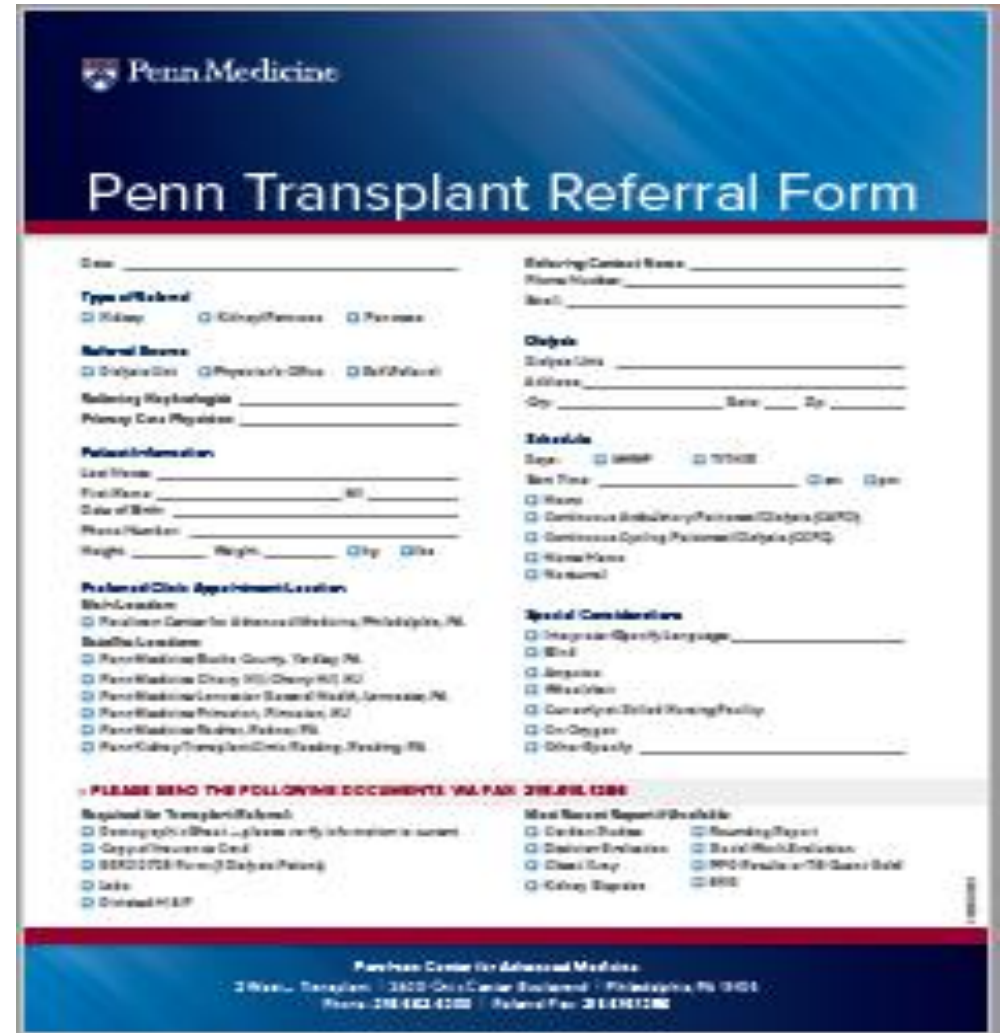


# Objectives

- Review the pre-transplant phases of transplant
- Differentiate between each phase of kidney transplant care
- Outline the key milestones for each phase of pre-transplant
- Brief overview of the transplant team

# Referral Phase

- The referral phase begins with the referral of the patient to the transplant program, and continues through the review of the patient's medical record
- Patients can be referred to the transplant program in a variety of ways
  - Dialysis unit
  - Nephrologist
  - Primary care provider
  - Self-referral



The image shows a 'Penn Transplant Referral Form' from Penn Medicine. The form is titled 'Penn Transplant Referral Form' and includes the Penn Medicine logo at the top left. It contains several sections for patient information and referral details:

- Demographics:** Name, Home Number, Sex.
- Type of Referral:**  Kidney,  Kidney/Pancreas,  Pancreas.
- Referral Source:**  Dialysis Unit,  Physician's Office,  Self-Referral.
- Referring Physician:** Referring Nephrologist, Primary Care Physician.
- Patient Information:** Last Name, First Name, Date of Birth, Race/Ethnicity, Height, Weight, City, State.
- Referral Clinic Appointment Location:**  Renal Center for Access (Philadelphia, PA),  Penn Medicine Bucks County,  Penn Medicine Cherry Hill,  Penn Medicine Lancaster General Hospital,  Penn Medicine Princeton,  Penn Medicine Reading,  Penn Medicine Transplant Clinic (Reading, PA).
- Referral Details:** Referring Center Name, Home Number, Sex, City, State, Zip.
- Special Considerations:**  Organ/Specialty Language,  Blind,  Amputee,  Wheelchair,  Current/Former Living Donor,  On Oxygen,  Other Specialty.
- Required for Transplant Referral:**  Serology/Infectious Disease info,  Organ Donor or Recipient,  SERC/OTC forms,  Labs,  Directed H&P.
- Must Have on Report/Available:**  Cardiac Studies,  Dialysis Evaluation,  Chest X-ray,  Kidney Biopsy,  Renal Report,  Social Work Evaluation,  NPO Results or TB Screen Result,  EKG.

At the bottom, it provides contact information for the Renal Center for Access at Penn Medicine: 3800 City Center Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Phone: 215.632.4200, Referral Fax: 215.632.1286.

# Referral Intake

- The New Patient Coordinator will collect some basic information from the potential candidate
  - Basic health information
  - Health insurance information
  - Referring provider's information
  - Dialysis unit
  - Dialysis start date
  - Reason for evaluation
  - Does the patient use assistive devices to ambulate
  - Does the patient use supplemental oxygen
  - Is the patient willing to accept blood products
  - Is the patient being followed by any specialists

# Referral phase

- The new patient coordinator will schedule the patient for an evaluation appointment at one of 8 evaluation sites
  - \*University City \*Center City \*Cherry Hill \*Princeton \*Yardley \*Radnor \*LGH \*Reading
- The intake team will request medical records from dialysis units and other health care providers
  - 2728 form
  - History and Physical
  - Vaccination records
  - Imaging Studies
  - Office visit notes



# Referral Phase

- The patient is sent a packet of information
  - How to Prepare for your Kidney Transplant Evaluation
  - Education video
  - Medical release forms
  - SRTR outcomes
- Insurance information will be verified

# Referral Phase

- Pre-transplant coordinator will review the patient's record
- Pre-transplant coordinator will contact the patient to verify medical/surgical history, and current medication list
- Pre-transplant coordinator will also assess the patient's understanding of the pre-transplant education and answer any questions
- Pre-transplant coordinator will provide brief introduction to the evaluation appointment day



# Evaluation Phase

- The goal of the evaluation is to assess the patient's eligibility of being a transplant candidate, and to determine if transplantation outweighs the risk of known medical, surgical, and psychosocial risk factors for the candidate
- Evaluation phase begins the day the patient arrives for the evaluation appointment
- Multidisciplinary team will complete a comprehensive medical, surgical, and psychosocial assessment
- The potential candidate is educated on options for kidney transplant
- The team will review and collect consent for transplant evaluation



# Meet the Multidisciplinary Team

## Transplant Coordinator:

Coordinates the multidisciplinary clinical care of the patient through the phases of transplant

**Transplant Nephrologist:**  
Maintains responsibility for all aspects of transplant medical care of the patient through all phases of transplant

**Transplant Social work:**  
Evaluates the psychosocial status and psychosocial needs of the transplant candidate throughout the phases of transplant

**Transplant Surgeon:**  
Maintains responsibility for all aspects of transplant surgical care of the patient through all phases of transplant

**Transplant Dietician:**  
Provide nutritional screening and counseling for transplant candidate

**Transplant Pharmacy:**  
Evaluate and assist with medication related concerns for transplant candidates and recipients

# Evaluation Phase

- Labs and serologies
- Infectious disease screening
- ABO (2 separate samples)
- Chest x-ray
- Cardiac screening
- Review age/gender appropriate health maintenance screening
- Additional consults to specialist as determined by the multidisciplinary team assessment
- Additional imaging as determined by the multidisciplinary team assessment

# Evaluation Phase

- Candidates in the evaluation phase will be discussed at the kidney transplant patient selection committee meeting
- The evaluation phase ends when the patient is approved for transplant listing, or the team has determined that the candidate is not appropriate for transplant listing
  - Decline: will not be added to the transplant waiting list
  - Needs re-presentation: the team needs additional testing and observational data before listing decision can be made
  - Approved: patient has been approved to be listed on the national kidney transplant waitlist.
- The transplant coordinator will follow-up with the patient following patient selection committee to inform the patient of the decision and additional requirements

# Patient Selection

- Eligibility for Listing:
  - Patients with CKD with an eGFR less than or equal to 20ml/min
- Absolute Contraindications for Listing
  - Active an untreated opportunistic infection
  - Advanced liver disease for which they are not a candidate for liver transplant
  - Uncontrolled malignancy or metastatic cancer
  - Active substance abuse
  - Severe chronic lung disease, include oxygen dependence
  - Wheelchair bound due to frailty
  - End stage AIDs
  - Advanced, irreversible heart failure for which the patient is not a candidate for heart transplant

# Waitlist Phase

- **Congratulations- we are pleased to inform you that your name has been added to the United Network for Organ sharing waitlist!**
  - Active Status (status 1): will accrue time on the waiting list and is ready for transplant
  - Inactive Status (status 7): will accrue time on the waiting list, but not ready to receive organ offers
- Once patients are added to the waiting list, the coordinator will notify the patient, HD unit, and referring provider



# Waitlist Phase

- During the waitlist phase it is important to remain up to date with testing
- Remain in close contact with the transplant coordinator
- Complete monthly current samples
- Complete all recommended follow-up appointments
- Inform the transplant team of any new health information
  - Hospitalizations
  - Infections
  - Blood transfusions
  - Pregnancies
  - Loss of dialysis access
  - Cardiac events
  - Loss/change of health insurance coverage
  - Change in social support

# Transplant Readiness

- Ensure contact information is always up to date with the transplant center
- Remain in close contact with your transplant coordinator
- Continue to complete monthly current samples
- Look for a living organ donor
- Make sure you have a plan for getting to the transplant center
  - An organ offer can come at any time, day or night!





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