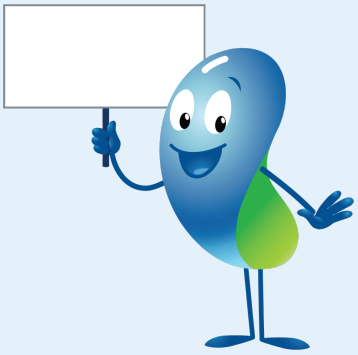
THE KIDNEY EXPERTS

Kidney transplant basics



What is a kidney transplant?

A transplant is a treatment for kidney failure. A surgeon places a healthy kidney from a donor into your body. The new kidney does the work your own kidneys used to do.

Where does the kidney come from?

- From a donor who has died
- Or from a living donor: a family member, a friend, or even someone you don't know well

Living donors

People can live a healthy life with one kidney. A donor must be tested first, to make sure they are healthy enough to give a kidney.

Good to know

- Without a living donor, you wait on a list for a kidney. The wait can be long.
- A transplant is not for everyone. Tests at a transplant center show if it is a good fit for you.
- After a transplant, you take medicine every day. It helps keep your body from rejecting the new kidney.

Ask us if a transplant could be right for you.

Bring your questions to every visit.

From Neff Roligée and The Kidney Experts

The Kidney Experts
This handout is for learning only. It does not replace advice from your care team.
Neff is The Kidney Experts' mascot.
Reviewed by Shree Mulay, MD.

Scan to watch Neff's video.