



Did You Know...

Transplant is an opportunity to receive a working kidney. Don't let misinformation or a lack of information hold you back from pursuing transplant.

- **Age and pre-existing conditions don't necessarily exclude you from the transplant wait list.**
New expanded donor criteria make more organs available by matching age and size and other pre-existing factors, in addition to blood type of donor and recipient.
- **All major religions support organ and tissue donation as an unselfish act of charity.**
Receiving a transplant is supported or left as a decision to the individual in most major religions of the world. To check for your specific faith, go to:
<https://www.kidney.org/atoz/content/religion-organ-donation>.
- **Most people can donate one kidney without health consequences.**
Living donors generally report joy and a feeling of connection and fulfillment after donation of such a personal and precious gift.
- **Even if you've had cancer, you may be able to have a transplant.**
Depending on the type of cancer you've had and how long ago, cancer does not necessarily exclude eligibility from transplant waitlist. The screening and testing you'll undergo to get on the waitlist will determine whether you're healthy enough to get through the surgery and recovery.
- **Use of medicinal marijuana may or may not be a factor in determining your eligibility for transplant waitlisting.**
We encourage you to speak with your transplant team about this matter, as each transplant center has their own policies around marijuana use and transplant.

Transplant is an opportunity to get your life back. You may be able to resume many of your normal activities; working, sports, self-care, and living life to its fullest.*

* UNOS, *Talking About Transplantation, What Every Patient Needs to Know*, 2016. www.unos.org, Richmond, VA