

I Would Like to Start the Testing Process for a Kidney Transplant

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

Step 5

Step 6

What to expect



Once you receive education, more tests will be required as part of the referral process to the provincial transplant centre at Vancouver General Hospital or St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver. This includes standard blood tests, blood tests to rule out sexually transmitted infections, a chest x-ray, cardiac testing and various other tests which screen for tuberculosis and colon cancer (fecal test). These tests are done on all patients being considered for kidney transplant. Some tests will take more time than

others, but the tests are important in making sure you are suitable to receive a living donor kidney transplant.

Your local transplant clinic and kidney care clinic will work together to ensure that all the tests required are completed and sent to Vancouver General Hospital or St. Paul's Hospital. Your family doctor may be contacted to provide important health information as well.

Once testing is complete and the referral is sent to Vancouver General Hospital or St. Paul's Hospital, the priority in which you will be seen depends on different factors. For example, you will be assessed more quickly if you have identified a living donor and the living donor has registered as a possible donor. People with registered living donors are prioritized over those who do not have a living donor registered. People with lower GFR may get prioritized to be seen sooner as well.

Things to think about and discuss

You can help by ensuring that your basic health and dental care are up to date. See your dentist to make sure there are no infections in your mouth or teeth or any major dental work is required since it's better to do this before your transplant rather than after. Prostate testing for men during routine

examinations with your family doctor should be done and routine cancer screening tests such as pap and mammogram for women and fecal occult blood tests (FIT) should also be completed according to BC Cancer screening guidelines.

When will I be contacted by my kidney care team?

- To book an appointment to meet with the local transplant team to discuss tests and consults that will be needed.
- To arrange required testing and consultations.
- To follow-up about the status of your Living Donor Outreach Plan and help you address any barriers.

Decisions I need to make now:

- Do I move forward with testing and assessment?
- How do I get to and from my testing appointments?

Questions to ask my kidney care team:

- How long will the testing take?
- Do I need to coordinate the testing myself?
- Who can help me if I am having trouble with transportation to get tests done?
- How will my test results be shared with my family doctor?
- Do I need to pay for any tests?
- Can all tests be done at my regular lab?
- Can I stop the process during the testing?
- Where will my transplant referral be sent?
- How long will it take for my referral to be processed?
- If my referral is not accepted by the transplant team, what are my options?
- Will there be more testing for me to complete?
- How do I find a living donor?
- What happens after I'm done all the testing?



Where am I in the transplant process?

- I have started the required testing for a transplant referral to Vancouver General Hospital or St. Paul's Hospital.
- I have started to develop a Living donor outreach plan.
- I have completed the required testing for a transplant referral to Vancouver General Hospital or St. Paul's Hospital.
- My kidney care team has sent the referral to Vancouver General Hospital or St. Paul's Hospital.