

Kidney Living Donor Program Roadmap



Intake

The potential donor (PD) completes a questionnaire that is assessed by the donor team for kidney donation suitability. Information shared is kept confidential.



Scan for Questionnaire

After applying, a member of the team contacts the PD for intake. The PD receives a welcome packet, completes consent forms and shares requested medical records.

Once consents and initial review are complete, the PD will be contacted by the independent living donor advocate (ILDA). Screening labs (blood, urine, and other as needed) will be ordered by the coordinator to evaluate kidney function.



Review & Initial Testing

If the screening labs are favorable the PD is invited to attend a multidisciplinary clinic (MDC) evaluation.

Multidisciplinary team

- Transplant nephrologist
- Transplant surgeon
- Transplant registered nurse coordinator
- Social worker
- Independent Living Donor Advocate (ILDA)
- Transplant psychiatrist
- Living donor dietitian

Available resources

- Option for virtual evaluation
- Independent Living Donor Advocate
- Guide to living donation
- Access to remote or advanced donation through paired-exchange
- Guide to finding supplemental financial resources
- Robot-assisted surgery program
- Post-donation follow-up care



Evaluation MDC 1

Includes:

- Education session with a nurse coordinator
- Visits with a nephrologist, a social worker, and additional specialists, if needed



Evaluation MDC 2

After MDC 1, if suitable, the PD comes to MGH to complete the work-up:

- Abdominal CT scan
- Chest X-ray
- Cardiac testing
- A second ABO blood typing
- Human leukocyte antigen (HLA) testing
- Visits with a transplant surgeon, ILDA, and other specialists, including psychiatry, if needed



Selection

The Multidisciplinary Selection Committee reviews the PD candidacy and determines suitability for donation.

Potential committee decisions

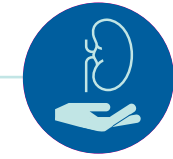
1. Approve
2. Decline
3. Defer

The candidate is kept informed throughout the process.



Before Donation

Once the PD is approved and the intended recipient is ready for the transplant, a surgery date is scheduled. Two weeks ahead of this date, the PD will come to MGH for education, additional lab tests, screenings, and to sign consent forms.



Donation

Location of procedure

The nephrectomy, removal of donor kidney, takes place at the Mass General Hospital main campus.

Before discharge

The donor stays in the hospital for two days in addition to the surgery. The nurse coordinator, social worker, and ILDA visit with the donor.



After Donation

The donor completes an online follow-up questionnaire, lab testing, and returns for follow-up (virtual or in person), 10 days, 6 months, 1 year, and 2 years after donation.

The donor is welcome to receive additional follow-up care at Mass General Hospital Transplant Center, as needed.