

- Your name is added to a waiting list. Priority on the list is given to those patients based on their condition .
- Follow instructions for how to stay in contact with the liver transplant committee. It keeps your status updated on the waiting list. If your liver disease gets worse or another health problem occurs, tell the transplant team right away. These occurrences may change your position on the list.

While on the Transplant Waiting List, blood tests should be monitored monthly unless otherwise indicated (case-to-case basis) and patient is followed up in the outpatient clinics every 1- 3 months or as deemed necessary by the team. Required radiological and other investigations while the patient is on the waiting list include the following:

- Ultrasound with Doppler studies or MRI with MRA every six (6) months for non-HCC patients.
- MRI with MRA and Tumor Markers (AFP, CEA, CA 19-9) every three (3) months for HCC patients.
- ECG, Stress Echo, Adenosine or Dobutamine Scan should be done every six (6) months or as per recommendation by the Cardiologist and Transplant Anesthetist.
- PFT should be done every 6 months or as recommended by Pulmonologist or
- Transplant Anesthetist.

What happens when a liver becomes available?

When a liver becomes available, the Liver Transplant Committee chooses the person who is the best match . People who are waiting for a liver need to carry a cell phone or pager at all times so that they can be reached quickly.

When you get called for your liver transplant, you will need to get to the hospital as soon as possible.

“ALL WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW AS BASICS ABOUT PRE-LIVER TRANSPLANT IS HERE”



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What is a liver transplant?

In a liver transplant, a healthy liver is replaced for a damaged liver by a doctor.

Why might I need a liver transplant?

You might need a liver transplant if you have chronic liver diseases or liver failure. This is a condition in which the liver does not work the way it should. It may result in signs including fatigue and abdominal and leg edema. Additionally, it may cause the skin or eye whites to appear yellow. It is known as “jaundice.” Some forms of liver cancer patients may potentially require a liver transplant. Your doctor will try various treatments before recommending a liver transplant. Only if all other therapies fail will your doctor advise a liver transplant.

Where your new liver will come from?

- **Nonliving donation**

The new liver will typically be donated by a person who just passed away. This is called a nonliving donation. A donated liver is examined for liver disorders such viral hepatitis before the transplant procedure. Additionally, it is examined to see if it matches your blood type.

- **Living donation**

Sometimes a healthy living person will donate part of their liver. This is called a living donation. This is frequently a relative who has the same blood type as you. The only organ in the body that can repair missing or damaged tissue is the liver (regenerate). Therefore, after the transplant, the portion of the liver that was removed from the living donor grows back. Additionally, the liver that is transplanted to you grows to its full size after the procedure. A transplant with a living donor can be planned in advance. If you go on the waiting list for a non-living donor, it might be possible to get it done sooner. Less frequently than nonliving donor transplants, living donor transplants. However, they are increasingly often carried out across the nation.

What occurs prior to my receiving a liver transplant?

There are various procedures you must complete before receiving a liver transplant. You will have examinations, blood tests, and consultations with several doctors. Doctors will ask you about:

- Your other medical conditions and medicines you take.
- Your way of life, such as your usage of alcohol, drugs, or smoking.
- Your family and other support systems.

Not every patient who visits a clinic for liver transplantation receives a transplant. To be considered, you must meet certain conditions. For example, you must:

- Own a serious liver condition that has not improved after various treatments.
- Not suffer from a significant heart or lung condition like COPD.
- Not currently or within the past 5 years have certain cancers.
- Not use alcohol or drugs actively.
- After surgery, be prepared to take medications for the rest of your life.

You will be included to the waiting list for a new liver if you satisfy all of these requirements. Your case will be discussed in liver transplant committee. A friend or family member who donates a portion of their liver performs a liver transplant on a patient. A parent might donate a child a portion of their liver, for instance.

Your transplant evaluation?

A transplant evaluation is completed prior to adding you on the transplant waiting list. It takes from several days to several weeks. It is done on an outpatient basis or, if you are sick and this work up is needed to be done rapidly, you will be admitted to hospital. You will discuss the following with the transplant coordinator and the rest of the transplant team:

- Benefits and risks of a liver transplant.
- Medicines needed after the transplant.
- The possibility of organ rejection.
- Options for organ donation.
- The process of waiting for an organ.
- What to expect during surgery?
- Care and possible complications after surgery.
- The emotional aspects of waiting for a transplant for you and your family.
- The emotional aspects of transplant recovery and life-long medical care.
- The possibility of not finding an organ in time for a transplant.
- The possibility of a living donor transplant.

Waiting for a transplant?

You may be on the waiting list for some time, it can take months/years to find a liver donor. Here's what will happen during this time: