

Living Donor

Thank you for considering a living donation. As you know, donating an organ involves serious medical procedures — so choosing to donate is a big decision. To make sure you're ready to decide, **use this checklist as you talk with your healthcare providers about living donation.** It can help make sure you've covered important topics that may affect your decision.

Qualifying to donate

My healthcare providers have informed me of:

- Any tests and consults that are required as part of evaluation to be a living donor.
- How the decision to accept someone as a donor is made.
- The living donor advocate — the person responsible for representing and advising me throughout the evaluation process. The advocate's job is to protect and promote my interests as a donor candidate and to ensure that my decision is informed and free from coercion.

Financial considerations

My healthcare providers have told me about:

- Any financial coverage or obligation I may have as a donor.
- The possibility that future health problems related to donation may not be covered by my medical insurance.
- The possible impact of living donation on my ability to obtain health, disability, or life insurance.

Rights of the donor

My healthcare providers have informed me that:

- A donor has the right to opt out of donation at any time during the donation process.
- Communication between the donor and the transplant center will stay confidential.

Donation procedure, risks, and outcomes

My healthcare providers have given me specific information about the donation I'm considering, including:

- The surgical procedure, including treatment after the operation.
- Risks to the donor, including but not limited to:
 - Risk of death, infection, bleeding, blood clot formation, and changes in health and organ function.
 - Impact on family and social life, employment, and mental health. (Impact can come from donation or non-donation.)
- Available data on the national and transplant center-specific outcomes for living donors.
Source: <http://srtr.transplant.hrsa.gov>

Talking about... living donation and informed consent

The conversation you have with your healthcare providers is an important part of informed consent. **Informed consent** is the legal process for learning key facts about a procedure and willingly agreeing to undertake it despite the risks. So as your providers discuss living donation with you, don't be afraid to ask questions. It's important to have all your questions answered before you agree to become a living donor.

Possible outcomes, alternatives, and impact for the recipient

My healthcare providers have informed me about:

- The national and transplant-center-specific outcomes for the recipient of the donation I am considering.
Source: <http://srtr.transplant.hrsa.gov>
- Alternatives to transplant for the recipient (other treatments that may be appropriate for the patient).
- The possibility that the transplant recipient may not have his or her immunosuppressant drugs paid for under Medicare Part B. (This happens only if the transplant takes place in a non-Medicare-approved transplant center.)