## TRANSPLANT BLOOD SAMPLE STEPS TO SUCCESS

WHAT is a PRA test?

When a patient makes antibodies against foreign proteins, this is called panel reactive antibodies—PRA. The result is expressed as a percentage between 0 and 100% and represents the probability a recipient will match any given donor. A 60% PRA suggests the recipient will only match 40% of available donors. The higher the PRA, the more difficult it becomes to find a suitable donor.

WHY is it important?

Panel-reactive antibodies can change due to pregnancy, previous transplants, and blood transfusions. It is necessary to have a current PRA on file in order to match a recipient with a donor organ. Also, when PRAs change and reach the 99% PRA status, patients receive more priority points that could open them to more offers from the UNOS wait list.

WHEN should we send it?

## **Every. Single. Month.**

The sample is only good for 30 days.

HOW do we draw and process it?

Follow the procedure exactly as directed by the transplant center.





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WHAT happens if ve don't send it?

Because the sample is required for organ offers, a patient without a current sample can be skipped over for a transplant.







This material was prepared under Produced under contract numbers: ESRD Network 8: 75FCMC19D0005-75FCMC21F0001 and ESRD Network 14: 75FCMC19D0005-75FCMC21F0002, and the contents may not reflect CMS Policy.