

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Kidney Eligibility Criteria

- Advanced chronic kidney disease patients should have GFR < 25 ml/min prior to beginning evaluation.

Referral Process

UMMC accepts referrals from the dialysis social worker on behalf of the patient's physician, from the physician directly or the patient.

Referrals are accepted via fax, telephone and the Kidney Transplant page on UMMC website.

Once the referral is received, patient are contacted and the initial evaluation education, consent, initial labs are scheduled per the patient's availability.

Necessary forms for a faxed referral:

- Form 2728 (if the patient has started dialysis)
- History and physical (in the last 12 months)
- Copies of insurance cards (front and back)
- Current demographic information
- University Transplant referral form or dialysis center information that includes items on the referral form

Referral Best Practices

- Provide all items noted above and limit clinical information to most recently only.
- Ensure all copies are legible.

Kidney Exclusionary Criteria

Absolute Contraindications:

• Malignancy

- Untreated non-cutaneous
- Treated, with high or undetermined risk of recurrence

• Cardiac

- Uncorrectable severe coronary, cerebrovascular or peripheral arterial disease
- Chronic LV failure with EF<25%

• Pulmonary

- Severe COPD (e.g., FEV<1.25L)
- Severe pulmonary hypertension (PA pressure >60mmHg)

• Other Medical

- Significant active infection or chronic non-healing wound
- Advanced cirrhosis with portal hypertension
- BMI >39.5
- Unacceptable diabetes control HBA1c>9
- PTH >1250
- Advanced frailty
- Significant Active Infection or chronic non healing wound
- Untreated latent TB
- HIV Infection with viral load >50 copies/ml

• Psychosocial

- Active illegal drug use within past 6 months (exception for social marijuana use)
- Active marijuana or alcohol abuse
- Non-compliance with dialysis, prescriptions, medications, appointments
- Inability to perform activities of daily living or need for chronic custodial care
- Active custody of State or Federal Corrections

• Financial/Social

- Inadequate insurance coverage
 - Inadequate post-transplant medication coverage
- Incarceration or home arrest
- VA Rx coverage in MS
- Inability to develop and commit to an acceptable plan for post-transplant transportation and care
- Severe psychiatric illness

Kidney Transplant Evaluation

- Three or more days for evaluation with the participation of the patient's dedicated support person
- Eval begins with an education class taught by a nurse pre-kidney transplant coordinator (in-person)
- Nephrologist evaluation
- Social worker evaluation
- Dietitian evaluation (if applicable)
- Labs
- Radiology: chest x-ray, kidney ultrasound and CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis

Additional testing requirements:

- Cardiac testing: stress test, echocardiogram and cardiac catheterization
- Colonoscopy
- Biopsy reports
- Vascular reports
- Mammogram and pap smear

Financial evaluation:

- Income
- Insurance
- Citizenship
- Connection to state and federal benefits
- Post-transplant medication costs
- Travel/lodging costs (if applicable)

Selection Committee

- Each patient is presented to the Selection Committee within two weeks after clinic visit.
- Candidacy and further testing determined.
- Patient has 90 days to initiate testing. They may take > 90 days to complete. If the patient has not started transplant testing in three months, we assume they are not interested in transplant listing and close their file.
- Patient works with coordinator to complete additional items required for listing.

Post Referral

- UMMC Transplant locations for evaluation testing; Jackson and Grenada, with MD evaluations in Hattiesburg.
- Patient, referring MD, and dialysis center receive follow up letter with instructions.
- Patient follows up with coordinator on next steps. (Clearance letters, pathology reports, and testing)

Facility Best Practices

- Maintain a transplant binder to track each patient's referral process, including a tracking sheet with appointment dates and reasons for denial or hold. Create a tab for each patient containing referral and appointment letters and other pertinent information. Templates are available from Network 8 if needed.
- Designate a back-up staff member who understands the transplant tracking process and knows the transplant binder's location and can communicate with transplant centers in your absence.

Patient Status Reports

UMMC sends monthly update letters to all dialysis centers regarding status on the waitlist and reminder for monthly lab samples.

UMMC will provide updates to specialist and specialists practices on the status of patients referred, evaluated, waitlisted and transplanted. These reports can be individually produced upon request by referring providers.

All coordinator contact info is also listed on these reports.

Review the reports and contact the transplant center if you notice any discrepancies.

Contacts - Eval & Waitlist Coordinators:

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If you need more information or have questions, please contact: Off: 601-984-5065 / Fax: 601-984-2962 or www.umc.edu

