

HOW DOES THE KIDNEY PAIRED DONATION PROGRAM (KPD) WORK?

We refer to potential donors and transplant candidates whose blood type or tissue type does not match, as “incompatible.” A kidney transplant candidate and their incompatible potential donor can consider participating in a donor exchange. First, medical tests are done to see if they are both healthy enough to participate. If they qualify and are still interested, their medical information is then entered into the Canadian Transplant Registry (CTR).

The CTR is a secure computer database for patients in need of organ transplants and potential donors from across Canada and is maintained by Canadian Blood Services. For the Kidney Paired Donation Program, it contains medical information about incompatible donor and transplant candidate pairs from across Canada. The CTR compares the medical information and identifies pairs that might be able to exchange donors.



Canadian Blood Services is a national, not-for-profit charitable organization that provides national leadership for organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

Canadian Blood Services is responsible for managing the Kidney Paired Donation Program, and operates the Canadian Transplant Registry. In addition, Canadian Blood Services manages the supply of blood and blood products in all provinces and territories outside of Quebec. We also oversee the OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network, Canada's network of stem cell donors.

www.blood.ca/living-donation



1000106651 2017-09- 21

KIDNEY PAIRED DONATION (KPD) PROGRAM



IMAGINE THIS SITUATION:
A POTENTIAL DONOR WANTS TO DONATE A KIDNEY TO SOMEONE THEY KNOW, BUT MEDICAL TESTS DETERMINE THEY ARE NOT A GOOD MATCH. IMAGINE A SECOND PAIR IN THE SAME SITUATION, BUT THE KIDNEY FROM THE POTENTIAL DONOR IN THIS PAIR MATCHES THE PERSON WHO NEEDS A TRANSPLANT IN THE FIRST PAIR. BY SWAPPING THE DONORS IN THESE TWO PAIRS, TWO TRANSPLANTS ARE MADE POSSIBLE.

Donor exchanges can also occur in what is called a domino chain. These chains begin with someone who offers to donate to anyone in need of a kidney transplant. This individual is called a Non-Directed Anonymous Donor or NDAD. The chain ends with a candidate on the wait list at the NDAD's living donation program receiving a kidney from the last donor in the chain who does not match anyone in the KPD Program.



WHAT IS THE ADVANTAGE OF A NATIONAL KPD PROGRAM?



The national KPD Program gives incompatible donors another way to help someone receive a transplant. The chance of a transplant candidate finding a matching

donor increases if there are more pairs participating. The KPD Program can search for a match from a large number of donors because it contains pairs from all over Canada.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF JOINING THE PROGRAM



For transplant candidates:

- On average, kidneys from living donors last longer than kidneys from deceased donors.
- May need less time on dialysis.
- May receive a transplant before starting dialysis.
- May not have to wait as long for a transplant.

For potential donors:

- Potential donors have the opportunity to help someone they know who needs a kidney transplant even if they cannot give them a kidney directly.
- Have the ability to help more pairs by their donation.

WHAT WILL BE REQUIRED?

To participate in the KPD Program, potential donors and transplant candidates will first need to sign a consent form. This gives permission for entry of medical information into the CTR. If a donor and their incompatible transplant candidate are both found to be suitable for donation/transplantation, their information will be entered in the CTR as a registered pair. If a potential



donor is enrolling without a transplant candidate, their personal and medical information will be entered into the CTR as a Non-directed Anonymous Donor (NDAD).

If a donor is matched to a transplant candidate in the CTR, they will need to be approved by the matched transplant centre. Donors may be required to repeat some medical tests or do some new tests. This is so that the matched transplant centre can make sure that the kidney is suitable for the matched transplant candidate. Once all matches in the chain have been approved, the transplant teams will work to arrange the donation and transplant surgeries.

Donors will be required to undergo some tests each year if they are still unmatched. Maintaining contact with their living donation program is required for continued participation in KPD. After donation, they will be asked to ensure they have regular, ongoing healthcare.

WHO CAN JOIN THIS PROGRAM?



For kidney transplant candidates: If you are eligible for a kidney transplant in Canada and have a living donor who is willing and medically

able to donate a kidney, you can enroll through a transplant program in one of the provinces. You need to be approved by a Canadian transplant program for enrollment. You also need to be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or a foreign citizen covered under a provincial, territorial, or federal health insurance program while residing in Canada. You do not have to be on dialysis to enroll in the KPD Program.

For potential donors: You must be willing to take part in an exchange. All potential donors are required to complete a medical and psychological evaluation by a living donation program. This is to determine that it is safe for you to donate. Potential donors do not need to be citizens of Canada but must be approved for donation by a Canadian living donation program.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT KIDNEY PAIRED DONATION?

Kidney paired donation is an established practice in kidney transplantation. Registered pairs and NDADs have been matched in the Canadian Kidney Paired Donation Program since 2009.

As with any surgical procedure, there are risks associated with kidney donation and kidney transplantation. The living donation program will discuss these risks with potential donors. Additional information can be found at www.blood.ca.

The donations in the Kidney Paired Donation Program are considered anonymous.

Donors will not be told any information about the person who receives their kidney.



Transplant candidates will only be told medical information about the donor that is needed for them to make an informed decision about whether or not to accept the matched kidney.