

Patient Selection Criteria for Liver Transplantation

The transplant team will use the following guidelines for the selection of recipients for liver transplantation. The criteria are meant only for use as a guide and each patient will be considered individually. All patients will be discussed at the patient selection meeting for determination of status.

1. Age Limit

- a. Adult: 18-70 years of age
- b. Pediatric: 12-18 years of age

2. Medical

- a. Approaching end stage liver disease
- b. Evidence of clinical symptoms
- c. No advanced cardiac disease that is progressive and irreversible.
- d. No pulmonary disease that is progressive and irreversible such as advanced pulmonary hypertension or hepatopulmonary syndrome.
- e. If the patient has kidney disease: can qualify for multi organ transplant if patient has a high probability of dialysis in the near future or already on dialysis.
- f. Many previous operative procedures may prevent liver transplantation due to high risk of surgical complications. These will be considered on a case by case basis.
- g. Satisfactory nutritional status will be as determined by transplant team.
- h. No cancers, other than skin, unless previously treated and have been disease free for 2 to 5 years.
- i. Cannot have a disease that would cause the operation to be harmful or that the medicine that is given after transplant would make the disease worse or harmful to the patient.
- j. No active infection (can resume evaluation once infection is controlled)

3. Psychosocial

- a. Family and patient (as appropriate) accept responsibilities of transplant procedure and compliance with care after surgery
- b. Patient takes active role in care and/or has a strong family support system
- c. Patient must want to have a transplant.
- d. No psychiatric problems, which would interfere with compliance and follow up care.
- e. No active drug or alcohol abuse
- f. All patients will have to stop smoking and will be offered assistance if needed.
- g. Patients that are non-compliant to prescribed medical regime and/or substance abuse will not have evaluation started or completed until compliancy is proven. If the patient is on the list, the patient will be inactivated or removed.

4. Financial

- a. Patient and/or family will undergo financial counseling to establish transplant benefits including but not limited to Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance prior to the start of the transplant evaluation.
- b. Financial status, with particular consideration given to change in insurance policies, will be tracked and re-evaluated on each clinic visit. The patient will report any changes to the financial coordinator.