

WHAT DOES THE DONATION PROCESS INVOLVE?

The donor evaluation is an extensive process done to minimize the risks to you, the donor. The following steps provide an overview of the donor workup and evaluation process. Each step must be completed before proceeding to the next step.

STEP 1:

Your blood type is tested and confirmed as compatible or a good match for the recipient.

STEP 2:

You will meet with the Transplant Team (surgeon, coordinator, social worker) for an initial consultation and a discussion of the surgery. An in-depth history and physical exam will be performed. You will then have additional blood work done.

STEP 3:

You will be evaluated by the transplant social worker. You will have a chest x-ray, EKG, and a CT SCAN or MRI of your liver. If you are over 50 years of age you may also be required to have an echocardiogram and a stress test. If you are or ever were a smoker you may also be required to have a pulmonary function test.

STEP 4:

You will be evaluated and examined by the hepatologist (liver specialist).

STEP 5:

You will be evaluated by the Transplant Psychiatrist.

STEP 6:

The Transplant Team meets to review all of your test results and evaluations. If you are cleared for surgery, a surgical date is scheduled.

STEP 7:

You will meet with the entire Transplant Team for the second time, two weeks before your scheduled surgery date. This includes a second meeting with the social worker. You will be asked to donate blood on this day that will be used during your surgery. At this time we will review, discuss, and sign the first informed consent for your surgery.

STEP 8:

You and the recipient will both be admitted to the hospital the day before the scheduled surgery.

STEP 9:

Once admitted, we will review, discuss, and sign the second consent for your surgery.

If you have questions during any of the above steps, please do not hesitate to ask the Transplant Team