



Compassionate care, outstanding outcomes

**Trust the pioneers in transplant care
for your organ transplant**



VCUHealth™

Hume-Lee
Transplant Center

vcuhealth.org/transplant

If you or someone you care about is thinking about an organ transplant, you or your doctor can contact our transplant center to set up an initial appointment.



Pre-transplant process

We are here to give you the information, support, and reassurance you need. This chart will help you understand the screening and pre-transplant process. Our experts will guide you through every step as you get ready for your transplant.



About us

VCU Health's Hume-Lee Transplant Center is one of the top transplant programs in the nation. Our survival rates and outcomes often meet or exceed national standards.

Our program has a long history of innovation. VCU Health started one of the first solid-organ transplant programs in the country in 1956. Since then, we have led the way in organ transplantation and completed Virginia's first:

- Kidney transplant
- Adult and pediatric liver transplants

We have many years of experience performing successful transplants for specific organs, including:

- Heart
- Kidney (living and deceased donor)
- Liver (living and deceased donor)
- Lung
- Pancreas
- Pancreatic islet cell transplantation
- Total pancreatectomy with islet autotransplantation (TP-IAT)

Our team is always looking for new technologies to improve patient outcomes. We are proud to offer:

- Top-tier transplant physicians and surgeons who pioneered minimally invasive robotic-assisted transplant procedures
- One of the first tissue-typing labs in the world
- Internationally and nationally recognized clinical liver cell transplant program
- Award-winning transplant nursing staff

Your transplant team

Our team works closely to support you and help make your transplant a success.

Your care team may include the following members:

- Cardiologist, hepatologist, nephrologist or pulmonologist
- Transplant surgeon
- Transplant nurse coordinator
- Transplant nurses
- Social worker
- Pharmacist
- Psychologist
- Radiologist
- Financial coordinator
- Dietician
- Other specialists (i.e., endocrinologists)

300+
Kidney
transplants
performed annually



40
Living kidney
donations
in 2025

175+
Liver
transplants
Performed annually



26
Living liver
donations
in 2025



Second oldest
Heart transplant
program
in the United States

100+
TP-IAT procedures
for severe chronic or acute
recurrent pancreatitis



Waiting for your transplant

Average transplant wait times vary by organ. Kidney transplants usually take three to six years, while liver transplants often take one to three years. For a heart transplant, wait times can vary due to the patient's condition and whether mechanical circulatory support devices are used to keep patients alive until they receive a transplant. Most people wait about six to eight months for a lung transplant.

During this time, patients may become sicker. That's why we use our clinical skills and new ideas to help reduce wait times as much as we can.

While you wait for your transplant, your team will keep a close eye on your health. It's important to take care of yourself during this time by:

- Maintaining a healthy diet
- Staying as active as possible
- Managing your stress
- Building your support network with friends and family

Living donation

Sometimes, you may be able to get a kidney or liver transplant sooner through living donation instead of waiting for an organ from a deceased donor. A healthy

person, often a loved one or even a caring stranger, can donate one kidney and part of their liver. This allows for a planned surgery and often means a much shorter wait. While not everyone is eligible for living donation, it is an important option to think about as you consider your transplant journey.

To find out more about living donation, [visit the Living Donation section of our website.](#)

After your transplant

We want you to get back to your normal life as soon and as safely as possible. Your recovery will depend on your specific organ transplant and surgery.

Our transplant surgeons use minimally invasive techniques whenever possible. This often means smaller incisions and faster recovery for many patients.

You will probably stay in the hospital for at least a few days after your transplant, sometimes longer. This is to make sure your new organ is working well and that you have all the instructions you need for your recovery.

This includes learning which medicines to take and any limits on your activities or diet. Your transplant team will also give you a schedule for follow-up visits and any needed rehabilitation.

Our transplant team is here to answer questions about your transplant journey

Call **804-828-4104** to speak with a team member or for more information visit vcuhealth.org/transplant



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