

Department of Renal Medicine & Transplantation

Donating a kidney if you live overseas

Donation of a kidney from a healthy individual is common practice in the United Kingdom. This information is for patients who are considering donating a kidney in the UK but who live overseas.

Some preliminary tests may be performed overseas, but most tests will need to be performed or repeated in the UK. The tests that are required can be complex and unexpected medical conditions are sometimes discovered. If this happens, treatment for these will not be provided by the UK National Health Service (NHS) and you will have to return to your own country for treatment.

Similarly, any surgical or medical complications that occur after you have returned to your country of origin must be treated locally. The NHS will not provide or fund further treatment.

Requirements

The medical and surgical teams need to be satisfied that the potential donor fulfils the UK legal requirements. These are:

1. No reward has been, nor will any be given for the kidney donation.
2. The donor fully understands the proposed operation and consents to the removal of a kidney for transplantation.
3. An independent assessor has conducted separate interviews with the donor and the recipient and has submitted a satisfactory report to the Human Tissue Authority.

If there are any medical or legal concerns, the transplant teams will not agree to perform the transplant and the team will inform the UK Border Agency that the donation will not happen. This may affect the donor's visa and the duration for which his/her visa is valid.

Any questions?

If you have any questions, please contact the living donor coordinators at the intended recipient's local hospital:

St George's Hospital

☎ + (44)20 8725 0305/0745/1035

Email: SGHTXSISTERS@nhs.net

St Helier Hospital

☎ + (44)20 8296 4522

Email: est-tr.TXnurse@nhs.net

Royal Sussex County Hospital

☎ + (44)1273 696 955 Ext 7478

Email: bsu-tr.BrightonRenalTransplant-workup@nhs.net

For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit www.stgeorges.nhs.uk

Additional services

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS can offer you on-the-spot advice and information when you have comments or concerns about our services or the care you have received. You can visit the PALS office between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday in the main corridor between Grosvenor and Lanesborough wings (near the lift foyer).

Tel: 020 8725 2453 **Email:** pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk

NHS Choices

NHS Choices provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make decisions about your health.

Web: www.nhs.uk

NHS 111

You can call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

Tel: 111

AccessAble

You can download accessibility guides for all of our services by searching 'St George's Hospital' on the AccessAble website (www.accessable.co.uk). The guides are designed to ensure everyone – including those with accessibility needs – can access our hospital and community sites with confidence.



Reference: REN_OKD_01 Published: August 2021 Review date: August 2023