

Preparing for Your Heart and Lung Transplant



Gina Pace, RN, BSN
Deb Carter, MS, CRNP

Heart Transplant

Indications for Heart Transplant

- ▶ End stage heart disease not amenable to other medical or surgical therapy
- ▶ NYHA Class III-IV symptoms on optimal medical therapy and prognosis for 1 year survival < 50-75%
 - ▶ Can be demonstrated by poor performance on metabolic exercise stress test
- ▶ Diseases leading to end stage heart disease:
 - ▶ Congenital heart diseases
 - ▶ Ischemic cardiomyopathy
 - ▶ Non- ischemic cardiomyopathy (i.e. familial, idiopathic)
 - ▶ Valvular disease
 - ▶ Refractory ventricular arrhythmias

Potential Contraindications for Heart Transplant

- ▶ Advanced age > 70
- ▶ Active infection
- ▶ Severe pulmonary hypertension
 - ▶ PAS > 60, PVR > 3.5 irreversible with inotropes
- ▶ Acute pulmonary embolism
- ▶ Morbid obesity BMI > 35
- ▶ History of tobacco and/or substance abuse within 6 mos
- ▶ Cachexia
- ▶ Cancer- case by case basis
- ▶ Major systemic disease
- ▶ Diabetes with end organ damage
- ▶ Lack of adequate social and financial support
- ▶ Major psych illness that cannot be sufficiently managed to allow safe post transplant care
- ▶ History of nonadherence to treatment

Referral for advanced heart failure therapy evaluation

- ▶ Patients with end-stage heart disease not amenable to other medical or surgical therapy may be referred by cardiologist or may self refer
- ▶ Heart transplant/ LVAD (left ventricular assist device) evaluation may occur simultaneously
- ▶ Heart transplant office will ask finance office to obtain financial clearance for evaluation
 - financial clearance is a 2 step process-> clearance for evaluation followed by clearance for listing or VAD implant AFTER full evaluation has been completed

Heart Transplant Evaluation

- ▶ Consults: cardiologist, transplant nurse coordinator, social work, nutrition, finance, surgeon
- ▶ Diagnostic studies: CTs, MEST, echo, RHC/LHC, peripheral and carotid dopplers, PFTs
- ▶ Labs: ABO, CBC, CMP, coags, lipids, serologies, HLA tissue typing and antibody screen
- ▶ Health Maintenance exams in accordance with age: colo, mammo, pap, PSA, dental
- ▶ Other studies as needed based on results of evaluation

Evaluation phase

- ▶ Schedule initial visit in the evaluation clinic for heart transplant and/or LVAD teaching
- ▶ Evaluation consent obtained (required) prior to any testing
- ▶ Perform chart review to determine what testing is needed based on age and health history per our evaluation protocol
- ▶ Schedule all necessary testing for outpatient evaluations
- ▶ Goal- complete inpatient evaluations in 2-3 days/ outpatient evaluations in 4-6 weeks

Selection committee

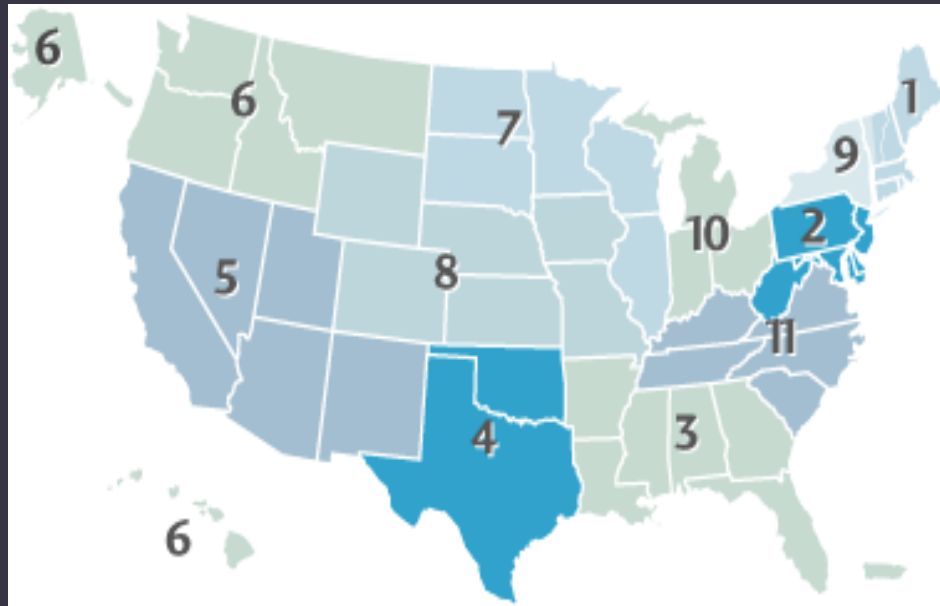
- ▶ All heart transplant and LVAD evaluations will be reviewed by the selection committee after all evaluation testing has been completed
- ▶ Insurance clearance for listing and or VAD implant will be obtained once patient is deemed an appropriate candidate
- ▶ Candidate will be listed for heart transplant if approved
- ▶ A listing letter will be sent to all patients that are activated on the UNOS transplant waitlist

United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)

- ▶ The National Organ Transplant Act 1984
- ▶ Non-profit member organization established in 1984
- ▶ Membership includes transplant hospitals, organ procurement organizations (OPO's), independent histocompatibility labs, general public members, and voluntary health organizations

UNOS

- ▶ Purpose – to facilitate every organ transplant performed in the United States and ensure that organs are procured and distributed in a fair and timely manner



Heart Listing Status

Adult Heart Allocation Statuses	
INPATIENT ONLY	
Status 1	
<input type="checkbox"/> VA ECMO	7 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-dischargeable, surgically implanted BIVAD	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> MCS/D with life-threatening ventricular arrhythmia	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Exception	14 days
Status 2	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-dischargeable, surgically implanted LVAD	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> TAH, BIVAD, RVAD, or VAD for single ventricle patient	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> MCS/D with malfunction	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Percutaneous endovascular MCS/D	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> IABP	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Life-threatening ventricular arrhythmia - non MCS/D	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Exception	14 days
INPATIENT or OUTPATIENT (depending on criteria)	
Status 3	
<input type="checkbox"/> LVAD with discretionary 30 days	30 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Inotropes with hemodynamic monitoring – Inpatient	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> MCS/D with hemolysis	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> MCS/D with pump thrombosis	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> MCS/D with device infection (see OPTN policy 6.1.C.vi)	
o erythema and pain along driveline	14 days
o serosanguineous or purulent drainage with + cultures	14 days
o bacteremia treated with antibiotics	42 days
o recurrent bacteremia with same organism	90 days
o + culture from pump pocket (see criteria)	90 days
<input type="checkbox"/> MCS/D with mucosal bleeding (see OPTN policy 6.1.C.vii) – Inpatient	
o meets all criteria with 2 hospitalizations within past 6mo	14 days
o meets all criteria with ≥ 3 hospitalizations within past 6mo	90 days
<input type="checkbox"/> MCS/D with aortic insufficiency	90 days
<input type="checkbox"/> VA ECMO (after status 1) – Inpatient	7 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-dischargeable, implanted LVAD (after status 2) – Inpatient	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Percutaneous endovascular MCS/D (after status 2) – Inpatient	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> IABP (after status 2) – Inpatient	14 days
<input type="checkbox"/> Exception – Inpatient	14 days
OUTPATIENT	
Status 4 (90 days)	
<input type="checkbox"/> LVAD without discretionary days	<input type="checkbox"/> Congenital heart disease
<input type="checkbox"/> Re-transplant	<input type="checkbox"/> Exception
<input type="checkbox"/> Inotropes without hemodynamic monitoring	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ischemic disease with intractable angina	
<input type="checkbox"/> Amyloidosis or hypertrophic or restrictive cardiomyopathy	
Status 5 (180 days)	
Multi-organ candidates	
Status 6 (180 days)	
<input type="checkbox"/> All other transplant candidates	

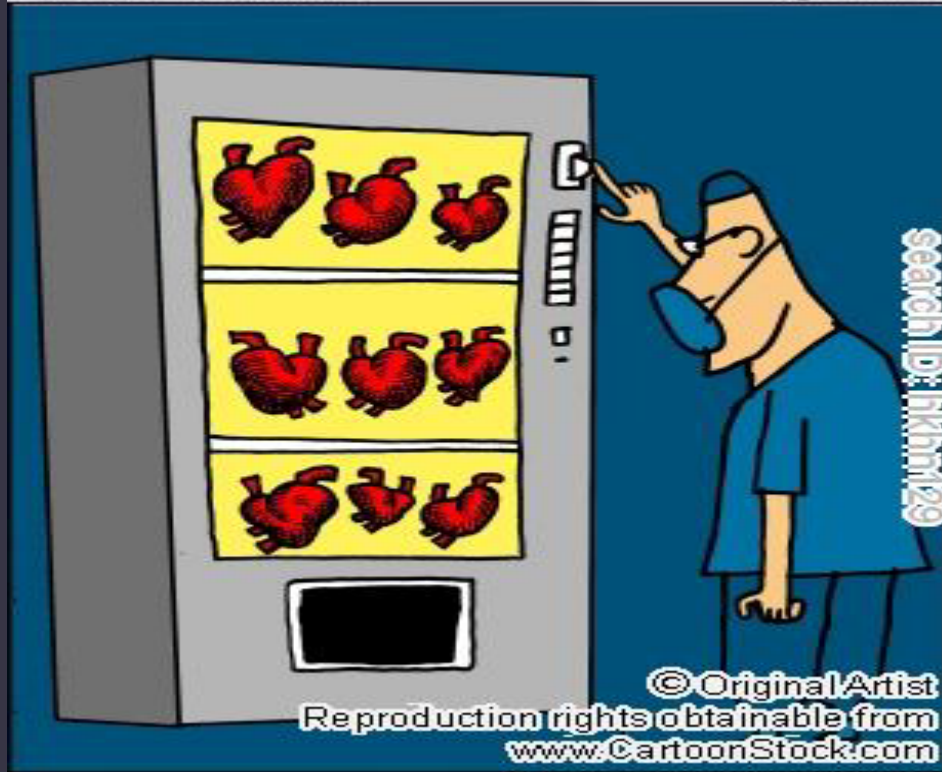
- ▶ New status criteria effective October 15, 2018
- ▶ Active Status 1-6 with Status 1 most critical
- ▶ Organs allocated to most critically ill patient in 500 mile radius

Waitlist Phase

- ▶ Follow-up visits at least every 3 months
- ▶ Keep transplant office updated with changes medical condition, weight, phone numbers, and insurance changes
- ▶ You may be listed at multiple centers if your insurance allows it
- ▶ Continue to study information regarding post-transplant care and ask questions
- ▶ If available attend virtual support group meetings
- ▶ Be prepared to be admitted to wait for heart transplant

LIFE ON EARTH

by Ham

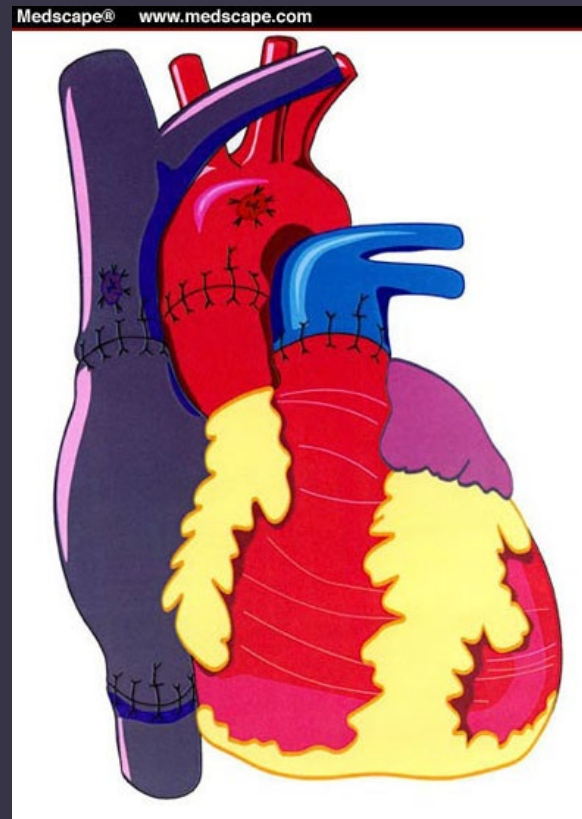


Search ID: hkhm129

© Original Artist
Reproduction rights obtainable from
www.CartoonStock.com

Heart Transplant Surgery

- ▶ Orthotopic Heart Transplant (OHT)
- ▶ Matched based on blood type and body size
- ▶ Sternotomy
- ▶ Donor heart transplanted within 4-6 hours
- ▶ Primarily bicaval technique



Post-operative Phase/Care





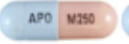




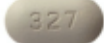


















- ▶ ICU for 2-4 days
- ▶ Hospitalized 10-14 days
- ▶ Teaching regarding medications, exercise, diet
- ▶ Medication teaching done with you and primary care giver

The Denervated Heart

- ▶ Resting heart rate is 90-110
- ▶ Heart rate is dependent on circulating hormones called catecholamines such as epinephrine and norepinephrine so the response is slower
- ▶ Need to warm-up and cool-down with exercise and change position slower

Medications

- ▶ Immunosuppression - three drug regimen
 - ▶ Tacrolimus - main anti-rejection, mainstay for life
 - ▶ Trough level essential part of care, give 8am/8pm in hospital
 - ▶ Level too high → can cause kidney injury
 - ▶ Level too low → can lead to rejection of transplanted organ(s)
 - ▶ Side effects of a HIGH level: increased tremor, frontal HA, HTN
 - ▶ Interaction with grapefruit, pomegranate, marijuana → AVOID
 - ▶ Cellcept
 - ▶ Side effects: GI distress, bloating, **diarrhea**, nausea, **neutropenia**
 - ▶ Prednisone
 - ▶ Dose weaned as an outpatient
 - ▶ Side effects: increase blood sugars, slow wound healing

Cellcept® (Mycophenolate Mofetil)			
Manufacturer	250 mg Capsule	500 mg Tablet	
Roche			
Generic Mycophenolate Mofetil			
Mylan / UDL			
Apotex			
Roxane			
Sandoz			
Teva			
Zydus			
Accord			
Endo			
Prograf® (Tacrolimus)			
Manufacturer	0.5 mg capsule	1 mg capsule	5 mg capsule
Astellas			
Generic Tacrolimus			
Sandoz			
Dr Reddy's Laboratories			
Mylan	Hard-shell gelatin capsule with a light orange opaque cap and a gray opaque body filled with white to off-white powder, axially printed with MYLAN over 2045 in black ink on both the cap and the body	Hard-shell gelatin capsule with a light blue opaque cap and a gray opaque body filled with white to off-white powder, axially printed with MYLAN over 2046 in black ink on both the cap and the body	Hard-shell gelatin capsule with a rubine red opaque cap and a gray opaque body filled with white to off-white powder, axially printed with MYLAN over 2047 in black ink on both the cap and the body.
Watson			

Post-Discharge

- ▶ Weekly visits with heart biopsies and clinic visits
- ▶ Frequent labs
- ▶ Cardiac Rehab after first 12 weeks
- ▶ Medication adjustments
- ▶ Monitor for side effects of medications, infection and rejection
- ▶ Stay in close contact with team



Lung Transplant

Indications for Lung Transplant

- ▶ Requiring O₂ at rest or exertion
- ▶ Multiple hospitalizations
- ▶ Decline in PFTs
- ▶ CO₂ retention
- ▶ Decreased QOL
- ▶ Diseases leading to end stage lung disease:
 - ▶ COPD and A1AD
 - ▶ IPF/ILD
 - ▶ CF and bronchiectasis
 - ▶ PAH
 - ▶ Sarcoidosis

Potential Contraindications for Lung Transplant

- ▶ Active smoking, <6 mos abstinence
- ▶ Active substance abuse
- ▶ Age > 75
- ▶ Severe diffuse coronary disease not amenable to revascularization
- ▶ Bone marrow dysfunction
- ▶ Severe neuro deficits
- ▶ Major psych illness that cannot be managed to sufficiently allow post- op care and safety
- ▶ Deconditioning
- ▶ Previous chest surgery/transplant
- ▶ Achalasia
- ▶ Other end organ disease
- ▶ Morbid obesity BMI >30
- ▶ Severe malnutrition/cachexia BMI <17
- ▶ Chronic pred use > 20mg/day
- ▶ Psychosocial/financial concerns
- ▶ Cancer in last 5 yrs, except local skin ca
- ▶ Colonization w/ resistant infections
- ▶ Chronic mechanical ventilation/ ECMO- unless tolerating PT

Lung Transplant Evaluation

- ▶ Consultations: Pulmonology, Transplant Nurse Coordinator Teaching, Social work, Nutrition, Thoracic Surgery (Infectious Disease and ENT for CF)
- ▶ Diagnostic studies: CT scans (Chest, Abdomen and Pelvis), VQ Perfusion scans, Echocardiograms, Right and Left Cardiac Catheterization, Bone Density Study, Swallowing Studies, SNIFF testing, Pulmonary Function Testing, 6 min walk testing.
- ▶ Labwork -ABO, CBC, CMP, coags, lipids, serologies, ABGs, HLA tissue typing and antibody screens
- ▶ Health Maintenance exams in accordance with age: Colon screening, mammography, Pap testing and GYN exam, PSA, Dental clearance
- ▶ Other studies as needed based on results of evaluation

Lung Transplant Activation

- ▶ UNOS (United Network of Organ Sharing) Lung Allocation Score (LAS)
 - ▶ Score 0-100
 - ▶ Based on patient data such as PFTs, 6MWT, labs, diagnosis, O2 requirement
 - ▶ Can be updated as needed

Local → Region → National

- ▶ LAS
- ▶ ABO
- ▶ Size

Lung Transplant Surgery

- ▶ Single -Thoracotomy Incision
- ▶ With or without bypass
- ▶ Can be an option for diagnoses such as IPF and ILD
- ▶ Double -clamshell incision
- ▶ With or without bypass
- ▶ Necessary for diagnoses such as CF, Sarcoidosis and Pulmonary Hypertension

Post- op Care:

- ▶ Continue mobility and pulmonary toilet
- ▶ Discharge teaching with post- transplant coordinator
- ▶ Bronchosopies
- ▶ Spirometry
- ▶ Monitor for side effects of immunosuppression
 - ▶ BP
 - ▶ Renal function
 - ▶ Blood glucose

Post Discharge and Beyond

Follow up care includes:

- ▶ Weekly clinic visits
 - ▶ Frequent labs
 - ▶ Pulmonary Function testing
 - ▶ Pulmonary rehab
 - ▶ Medication adjustments

Ongoing surveillance for:

- ▶ Chronic rejection
- ▶ Bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome
- ▶ Restrictive allograft syndrome
- ▶ Malignancy
 - ▶ Skin
 - ▶ PTLD

