

Program for Reimbursing Expenses of Living Organ Donors, Bulletin I, April 2, 2008

Trillium Gift of Life Network has now launched the Program for Reimbursing Expenses of Living Organ Donors referred to as *PRELOD*. Potential and actual Living Organ Donors as of August 3, 2007 may now apply to PRELOD for reimbursement of eligible expenses

Part of the Premier's August 3, 2007 announcement on the New Organ Donation Strategy, PRELOD is a MOHLTC-funded program designed to reimburse living organ donors up to a maximum amount of \$5, 500 for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses associated with their organ donation. The MOHLTC is responsible for the PRELOD policy and eligibility requirements. Trillium Gift of Life Network is administering the program on behalf of MOHLTC.

PRELOD is available to eligible living organ donors who donate or intend to donate an organ to an Ontario resident listed for an organ transplant with a designated transplant program in Ontario. A person is eligible for PRELOD as a potential or actual living organ donor if a health history has been completed, reviewed and accepted by a Transplant Service and blood typing has indicated that the person is suitable to proceed with further clinical assessments. PRELOD is also available to eligible living organ donors who have travelled from outside of Ontario (Canada and International) to donate to an Ontario resident, upon certain qualifying conditions.

PRELOD may cover expenses for reasonable travel, accommodations, parking and meals during assessment and immediate post-surgery period, within the criteria defined by the Ministry. In addition, for persons who will be off work following surgery and during their recovery period, a loss of income subsidy is available for eligible living donors. To submit a claim through PRELOD, living organ donors are required to submit receipts for actual expenses incurred as well as other documentation to support claims. PRELOD is applicable only after all other sources of funding (eg. Northern Health Travel Grant, Employment Insurance, paid leave of absence, etc) have been utilized

The pre-established criteria for determining reasonable expenses and eligibility are illustrated below:

Claim	Eligibility	Other
ASSESSMENT & SURGERY		
Travel	Up to \$1, 500 applied to total expenses related to: Mileage if donor lives 60 km or more one-way to transplant hospital Land travel at \$0.41 per kilometre or bus, economy air or train travel if donor lives 100 km or more one-way to the transplant. Taxi fare for a return trip from the airport to hospital / hotel may be reimbursed.	No other local transportation may be covered.
Parking	Up to \$140 at a maximum of \$20/day.	In lieu of parking, costs associated with public transit may be reimbursed within the same limits.
Accommodations	Up to \$625 at a maximum of \$125 per night may be claimed if living donor lives 100 kilometres or	Accommodation expenses may be reimbursed for the evening prior to an

	more from the transplant hospital.	assessment visit and surgery if required, and the immediate post-surgery after discharge from the hospital and prior to return home.
Meals	Up to \$200 at a maximum of \$40 per day may be claimed if living donor lives 100 kilometres or more from the transplant hospital.	Meal expenses may be reimbursed for the evening prior to an assessment visit and surgery if required, and the immediate period post-surgery after discharge from hospital and prior to return home.
Meal Allowance	Up to \$150 at a maximum of \$30 per day, in lieu of accommodation and meals, if living donor lives 100 kilometres or more from the transplant hospital.	May be claimed for the evening prior to an assessment visit and surgery if required, and the immediate period post surgery after discharge from hospital and prior to return home.
POST-SURGERY		
Loss of income subsidy	Up to \$3, 200 at \$400 per week or 55% of net earnings, whichever is less, up to 8 weeks or until donor returns to work, whichever occurs first.	<p>The following criteria apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The subsidy is only available after all other sources of income have been utilized and exhausted (eg. Paid leave of absence, sick or vacation time, EI, short-term disability, etc.) • Proof income or income and benefit verification by employer will be required. • Living donors from Ontario and other Canadian provinces and territories who can't show proof of income will not be eligible • Out-of-country donors are not eligible for loss of income subsidy. <hr/> <p>In lieu of loss of income subsidy, in special circumstances, PRELOD may consider reimbursement of living donors for childcare expenses of non-working parents.</p>

To determine if you or someone you know is eligible for PRELOD, please speak to your Transplant Program or Trillium Gift of Life Network. Participating living organ transplant programs include: St. Michael's Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital (Hamilton), Kingston General Hospital, The Ottawa Hospital, University Health Network (Toronto General Hospital), Hospital for Sick Children and London Health Sciences Centre (Victoria Campus). Application forms are available from your living organ transplant programs and www.giftoflife.on.ca.

Trillium Gift of Life Network will be working closely with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and participating transplant hospitals to ensure that PRELOD is successfully launched. Regular PRELOD updates and bulletins will be posted online. In addition, if you have any further questions or concerns, please free to contact PRELOD at prelod@giftoflife.on.ca / 1-888-9PRELOD, or contact:

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