Referral and Assessment Process for a Kidney Transplant

To be considered for a kidney transplant, patients are referred to a transplant centre and assessed to see if they are a suitable candidate.

1. **Eligibility Criteria**
   Patients with chronic kidney disease discuss their treatment options with their regional renal program. If kidney transplant is an appropriate option, their regional renal program will check to see if they meet the eligibility criteria for a kidney transplant referral.

2. **Referral Process**
   Patients will undergo a series of tests to assess their medical and psychosocial condition, including blood tests, heart tests, and screening for cancer and infectious diseases. If a patient’s condition is stable and they meet the eligibility criteria, they will be referred to a transplant centre for further testing.

3. **Transplant Assessment**
   The transplant centre will assess patients to see if they are suitable for a kidney transplant. This includes further testing and consultations with surgeons, social workers and transplant nursing educators. It can take up to one year or longer to complete all of the required tests and assessments.

4. **Next Steps**
   Patients who are approved for a kidney transplant can pursue a living donor kidney transplant and/or be placed on the waiting list to receive a deceased donor kidney. Patients receive a confirmation letter when they have been registered on the deceased donor waiting list.

Find the referral and listing criteria at giftoflife.on.ca