Factors Impacting Wait Times for a Deceased Donor Kidney Transplant

There are four major factors that impact wait times for a deceased donor kidney transplant.

**Blood Type**
There are four blood types: O, A, B and AB. All people are compatible with their own blood type, and possibly with others. Patients must have a compatible blood type with their deceased kidney donor to prevent organ rejection.

How long a patient waits will depend on the number of compatible kidneys that are available for transplant.

**Allocation Points**
Allocation points are calculated for every patient on the waiting list and are based on the amount of time on dialysis and cPRA score:

\[
\text{Allocation Points} = 0.1 \text{ point per 30 days on dialysis} + \left(\frac{\text{cPRA}}{100}\right) \times 4
\]

Patients are arranged on the waiting list by their total allocation points.

**Calculated Panel Reactive Antibodies**
Calculated panel reactive antibodies (cPRA) is a score between 0% and 100% that estimates the percentage of kidney donors that a patient may be incompatible with.

- cPRA is measured by a blood test every 3 months, and
- Can change over time from pregnancy, blood transfusions, or other major health events.

Patients with high cPRA scores may have to wait longer to find a donor that is a suitable match.

**Extended Criteria Donors**
Kidneys from Extended Criteria Donors (ECD) are suitable for transplant but may not last as long as a kidney from a younger, healthier donor. Patients can choose to receive an ECD kidney if they are:

- Over the age of 60;
- Over the age of 50 with diabetes; or
- Approved as a suitable candidate by their transplant doctor.

Patients who receive a kidney from an Extended Criteria Donor typically have shorter wait times.

Find out more at giftoflife.on.ca
Estimating Wait Time for a Deceased Donor Kidney Transplant

Wait time is counted from the day a patient begins dialysis to the day they receive their kidney transplant. While it is impossible to predict exactly how long a patient will have to wait, looking at the wait times of previously transplanted patients can provide helpful estimates. Use this tool to estimate how long you may wait for a kidney transplant.

Are you over the age of 60, or over the age of 50 with diabetes?

- **YES**
  - Are you willing to accept a kidney from an Extended Criteria Donor (ECD)?
    - **YES**
      - What is your blood type?
        - **A** Estimated wait time is 2-4 years.
        - **B** Estimated wait time is 3-5 years.
        - **AB** Estimated wait time is 2-4 years.
        - **O** Estimated wait time is 3-5 years.
    - **NO**
  - **NO**

- **NO**
  - **NO**

What is your blood type?

- **A** Estimated wait time is 3-5 years.
- **B** Estimated wait time is 3-6 years.
- **AB** Estimated wait time is 2-5 years.
- **O** Estimated wait time is 4-6 years.

**DATA SOURCE:** Trillium’s Organ and Tissue Allocation (TOTAL) System. Estimates are based on the actual wait times of adult recipients of a deceased donor kidney transplant in Ontario. The range captures the 25th to the 75th percentile of recipients transplanted between January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020.

Find out more at giftoflife.on.ca