Transplant QIA Webinar: Transplant Center Outreach & Financial Coordinator – Piedmont Transplant Center

2020
Piedmont Hospital Transplant Institute

Hannah Graves, LMSW
Transplant Outreach Social Worker
Piedmont Transplant Institute

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www.piedmont.org/transplant/transplant-home

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If you need additional information or have questions, please call 404-495-5785 or 1-800-605-5888
Fax: 404-609-6620 or 404-609-6728

Attn: Brianna or Shekia
Piedmont Transplant Satellite Clinic

Albany
Piedmont Transplant Institute at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital
425 Third Avenue
Tower One, Suite 410
Albany, GA 31701

Athens
Oconee Health Campus
1305 Jennings Mill Road
Watkinsville, GA 30677
Located on 1st floor – Urgent Care

Atlanta
Piedmont Atlanta Hospital
1968 Peachtree Road NW
Building 77, 5th floor
Atlanta, GA 30309

Columbus
Piedmont Transplant Institute
At Columbus Surgical Associates
920 18th Street
Columbus, GA 31901

Macon
Piedmont Transplant Institute at Mercer Medicine
250 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Macon, GA 31201

Marietta
400 Tower Road, Suite 110
Marietta, GA 30060

Preston
Piedmont Transplant Institute Telemedicine Satellite Clinic
At Preston Family Medicine
6381 Hamilton Street
Preston, GA 31824

Savannah
Piedmont Transplant Institute
At Memorial University Medical Center
1201 East 66th Street
Savannah, GA 31404
Piedmont Transplant Institute transplants 274 kidneys in 2019!

The Piedmont Transplant team is proud to announce that 274 patients have received life-saving kidney transplants in 2019. Of those, 12 patients received kidney and pancreas transplants, 110 patients received kidneys from living donors and the remainder, 152 patients received kidneys from deceased donors. Of special note, living donor transplants increased from 60 in 2017 and 80 in 2018.
Piedmont Kidney Transplant Team

Led by renowned transplant surgeons and nephrologists with decades of collective experience, our multidisciplinary staff takes an integrated approach to care that supports the patient and their caregiver. Our kidney pancreas transplant team is an interdisciplinary group that includes psychiatrists, psychologists, pharmacists, transplant nurses, social workers and dietitians. We work together to formulate a customized treatment plan, ensuring that each patient’s medical and psychological needs are appropriately addressed.

Nish Patel
Executive Director
Kristi Goldberg
Clinical Manager
Piedmont Kidney Transplant Team (continued)

**Kidney Transplant Social Workers**
Melissa Corry, LMSW *(A-L)*  
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Roma Raheja, LCSW *(< 3 months post transplant)*  
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**Dietitians**
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Susanna Kosac, RD, LD  
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[Susanna.Kosac@piedmont.org](mailto:Susanna.Kosac@piedmont.org)
Piedmont Kidney Transplant Team (continued)

**Referral Intake Coordinators**
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Brianna Salter *(M-Z)*
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Fax: 404-609-6728
Brianna.Salter@piedmont.org

**Appointments & Records**
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Dawn.Harmon@piedmont.org

**Pharmacists**
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Thuy Ommert, PharmD, BCPS
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Fax: 770-916-4443
Thuy.Ommert@piedmont.org
Alexa Ray, PharmD, BCPS
Phone: 404-605-2925
Fax: 404-614-6818
Alexa.Ray@piedmont.org
Referral for Kidney Transplant
Referral App

Making referrals better

We are excited to announce the development of a transplant referral app for kidney and pancreas services. This app is designed to streamline the referral process by giving you 24/7 access to our team. It is available for free download on the Apple App Store.

How to download:
- Simply go to the app store and search Piedmont Kidney Pancreas Transplant.
- A link to the app is also available on our website piedmonttransplant.org.
- To unlock the protected area of the app you will need to use the password better.

The current referral process will remain in place if you prefer the more traditional way to refer patients into Piedmont Transplant.

piedmonttransplant.org • 404.495.5785 • 888.605.5888
Referral Process

Piedmont accepts referrals from the dialysis social worker (IDT) on behalf of the patient’s physician, from the physician directly and/or the patient

Referrals are accepted via fax, through the referral app or by telephone

Once received, patients are contacted shortly and the initial evaluation is scheduled within 2 weeks (or per the patient’s schedule)
Referral Process (continued)

Necessary forms for a faxed referral

• Form 2728 (if the patient has started dialysis)
• History and Physical (within a year of referral)
• Copies of license and insurance cards
• Recent labs including GFR (if possible)
• Demographic/ Facesheet
• PCP referral only if (required by insurance)
Kidney Eligibility Criteria

• Chronic Kidney Disease with GFR ≤ 20 ml/min or currently on dialysis
• Mentally Competent
• Patient desires a Kidney Transplant
• Candidates are usually ≥ 16 years old
Kidney Exclusionary Criteria

**Absolute Contraindications**

- Severe chronic lung disease
- Significant, non-reversible cardiac disease*
- Unstable major psychiatric disorders
- Inability to understand risks of transplant & care of self afterwards (informed consent) without domestic support
- Active substance abuse
- Tobacco use in setting of
  - Diabetes Mellitus
  - Coronary Artery Disease
  - Peripheral Vascular Disease
  - Chronic Lung Disease

*unless patient considered for combined kidney/heart transplant
Kidney Exclusion Criteria (continued)

**Relative Contraindications**

- Active malignancy or incompletely treated malignancy
- HIV w/ coinfection w/ Hep B or Hep C
- Irreversible coagulation disorder
- Active immunologic disease
- Evidence of previous substance abuse, abstinent less than 6 months
- Nonadherence to treatment regimen
- Advanced liver disease*
- Absence of financial resources to support transplant and post-transplant follow up including medication, living expenses, transportation and medical care

*unless patient considered for combined kidney/liver transplant
Relative Contraindications (continued)

• Advanced vascular disease
• Tobacco use
• Ongoing marijuana use with inability to stop
• Debility/poor mobility with poor rehabilitation potential
• Psychiatric disorder, mild to moderate compensated
  – Schizophrenia
  – Bipolar Disorder
  – Schizophrenic Affective Disorder
• Dementia or severe cognitive disorder
Kidney Exclusion Criteria (concluded)

Waist to Height Ratio
1. Measure waist one inch above belly button
2. Waist Measurement divided by Height equals Waist to Height ratio (W/H ratio)

Patients with **BMI 36-42**
- W/H ratio <0.7 = acceptable
- W/H ratio >0.7 = Age < 50 - consult CT
- Age ≥ 50 - unacceptable

- Patients with **BMI < 36** are acceptable
The Kidney Transplant Evaluation

- One day evaluation
- Day begins with an education class taught by a Nurse pre-kidney transplant coordinator
- Nephrologist evaluation
- Social worker evaluation
- Dietitian evaluation (if applicable)
- Labs
- Radiology: chest x-ray, kidney ultrasound and CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis
Evaluation

Additional Testing requirements

- Cardiac testing: stress test, echocardiogram & cardiac catheterization
- Colonoscopy with associated pathology
- Imaging studies i.e. ultrasounds and CT scans
- Biopsy reports
- Vascular reports
- Mammogram and pap smear
Financial Evaluation

Education and Assessment

• Income
• Insurance
• Citizenship
• Connection to state and federal benefits
• Post-transplant medication costs
• Travel/lodging costs (if applicable)
Georgia Transplant Foundation (GTF)

Financial Assistance
• Transplant Fundraising Program*
• Housing Assistance
• Dental Assistance*
• Insurance Premium Assistance*
• Emergency Assistance
• Living Donor Assistance*
• Temporary Medication Assistance
• Pediatric Specialty Assistance
• Transportation Assistance
• Academic Scholarships

Emotional Support
• Marriage Retreat
• The Mentor Project*

Educational Support
• Trends in Transplant (TNT) Conferences*
• JumpStart Program*

*denotes Pre-Transplant Program.

www.gatransplant.org
770-457-3796

*Piedmont Transplant
Selection Committee

- Each patient is presented to the Selection Committee ~ 2 weeks after clinic visit
- Candidacy and further testing determined
- Patient has 90 days to send in testing before case is closed
- Once additional testing is completed, patient is presented to Committee for further consideration/listing
Post Evaluation

• About a 2 week turnaround from referral to selection committee.
• Patient, referring MD, and dialysis center receive follow up letter with instructions.
• Patient follows up with coordinator on next steps. (Clearance letters, pathology reports, and testing)
Patient Status Reports

Piedmont Transplant Institute sends out a quarterly patient status report to each dialysis clinic which helps the social workers and referring MD’s understand the patient’s listing status and what the next steps are in the listing process. All coordinator contact info is also listed on these reports.
### 1-Year Patient Survival

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Piedmont Observed</th>
<th>Piedmont Expected</th>
<th>National</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Living Donor</strong></td>
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<td>100.00</td>
<td>99.10</td>
<td>99.12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Deceased Donor</strong></td>
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<td>97.10</td>
<td>97.07</td>
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<td><strong>All Donor Types</strong></td>
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<td>98.25</td>
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### 1-Year Graft Survival

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<tr>
<td><strong>Living Donor</strong></td>
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<td>97.14</td>
<td>98.00</td>
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<td><strong>Deceased Donor</strong></td>
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<td>94.61</td>
<td>95.05</td>
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<td><strong>All Donor Types</strong></td>
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<td>95.62</td>
<td>96.23</td>
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Difference between Piedmont Expected and Observed is not statistically significant

For patients receiving their first transplant of this type between 7/1/2016 and 12/31/2018 for the 1 year model
Patient Education

• Piedmont Kidney Transplant Support Group
  – Meets every 2nd Saturday of the month from 11am-12pm at Piedmont Atlanta hospital

• Kidney Living Support Group
  – Meets every 3rd Saturday of the month from 10am-11am at Southern Regional Medical Center

• https://www.piedmont.org/transplant/transplant-home
• https://piedmontlivingdonor.org/
Patient/Professional Education

- Piedmont Kidney Transplant Seminars
- Free 5 credit continuing education for social workers, nurses, dietitians and technicians
  - May 2020 in Savannah, GA
  - September 2020 in Atlanta, GA
  - December 2020 in Albany, GA
- Piedmont Post – Quarterly newsletter on kidney transplant program
Questions???