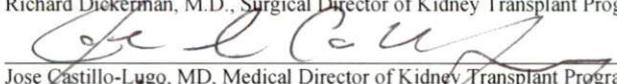
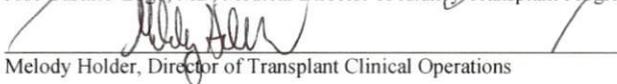


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|  Methodist Dallas Medical Center | Title: Multidisciplinary Team | Effective Date: 03/2015 |
| | Section: Kidney and Pancreas | |
| Approved by:  Richard Dieckman, M.D., Surgical Director of Kidney Transplant Program | | Revision Date(s): 04/2015; 12/11/2018 9/2022; 11/2025 |
|  Jose Castillo-Lugo, MD, Medical Director of Kidney Transplant Program | | |
|  Melody Holder, Director of Transplant Clinical Operations | | Next review Date: 11/2028 |

Purpose: To identify team members providing multidisciplinary care to kidney and pancreas transplant patients. Multidisciplinary care ensures that each patient will receive coordinated and comprehensive care from specialists with expertise in the medical, nursing, psychosocial, nutritional, and pharmaceutical fields.

Policy: All kidney and pancreas transplant patients at Methodist Dallas Medical Center will receive care provided by a multidisciplinary team consisting of a Transplant Nephrologist, Transplant Surgeon, Transplant Coordinator, Transplant Social Worker/Business Coordinator, Transplant Dietitian, and Transplant Pharmacist. Other resources that are available as needs are identified include Infectious Disease Physicians, Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Cardiologists, Pulmonologists, and Anesthesiologists.

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| Transplant Nephrologist | A physician who is an expert in kidney disease and transplantation. The Transplant Nephrologist assesses medical suitability for kidney transplantation, discusses the significance of transplantation with the patient (including the alternatives and medical complications), manages transplant-related medical needs prior to transplantation, participates in care during the transplant hospital admission, and follows recipients during clinic appointments at specific time periods post-discharge. Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners may support the Transplant Nephrologist in providing transplant patient care. The Transplant Nephrologist is also responsible for participating in transplant QAPI reviews and initiatives. |
| Transplant Surgeon | A physician who performs the transplant surgery. The Transplant Surgeon evaluates the patient's surgical suitability for transplant, discusses the significance of transplantation with the patient (including the risks, benefits and surgical complications), performs the operation, monitors immunosuppressive medications during the inpatient stay and provides post-operative care for a defined period of time following surgery. Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners |

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| | <p>support the Transplant Surgeon in providing transplant patient care. The Transplant Surgeon is also responsible for participating in transplant QAPI reviews and initiatives.</p> |
| Transplant Coordinator | <p>A Registered Nurse specializing in the care and coordination of care for transplant patients. To provide a continuum of care, Transplant Coordinators work together to ensure a smooth transition for patients between the inpatient and outpatient settings. The pre-transplant coordinators provide education regarding the transplant evaluation and listing processes, center-specific data and patient responsibilities before transplant. The Inpatient Transplant Coordinator works with patients during their transplant admission to provide education to the patient and their family about medications and the dosages/schedules they will need to maintain. In addition, they provide education about wound care, laboratory schedules and post-discharge clinic visits. The post-transplant coordinators provide nursing care to patients, maintain medical information, monitor labs and medications, and work closely with all members of the multi-disciplinary team regarding patient care issues. The Transplant Coordinator is also responsible for participating in transplant QAPI reviews and initiatives.</p> |
| Transplant Social Worker/Business Coordinator | <p>A licensed, master's prepared Social Worker who assesses and assists patients and their families to understand and cope with a variety of potential problems (emotional, family, financial, and vocational) that can be associated with end-stage kidney disease, the transplant process, and the post-transplant phase. The Transplant Social Worker is available to help patients at any point in their transplant care and provide a link to resources in the patient's community. The Transplant Social Worker is also responsible for participating in transplant QAPI reviews and initiatives.</p> |
| Transplant Dietitian | <p>A Registered Dietitian provides an assessment of nutritional status and an estimate of nutritional needs based on the diagnosis and the physiology of the disease process. The Registered Dietitian provides a pre-transplant assessment and attends inpatient rounds with the transplant team, providing education regarding nutritional needs, restrictions and supplements that may be necessary to optimize</p> |

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| | the nutrition status of each patient before and after transplant. The Transplant Dietitian is also responsible for participating in transplant QAPI reviews and initiatives. |
| Transplant Pharmacist | A pharmacist who has knowledge, training and experience in transplant pharmacotherapy is available to work with the transplant team, consulting on medications for patients during all of the transplant phases. The pharmacist is available to patients, physicians, nurses and other members of the healthcare team. The pharmacist assists the Inpatient Transplant Coordinator in providing additional education and teaching transplant patients and their families about medications when necessary. The Transplant Pharmacist is also responsible for participating in transplant QAPI reviews and initiatives. |

Pre-Transplant

The pre-transplant phase of care begins when the patient is referred for consideration of transplantation. Patients undergoing formal evaluation and presentation to the Transplant Selection Committee will be scheduled for a multidisciplinary evaluation that will include:

- A visit with a Transplant Nephrologist
- A visit with a Transplant Surgeon
- A visit with a Transplant Social Worker/Business Coordinator
- A visit with a Transplant Dietitian
- A visit with a Transplant Coordinator
- Appointments with other specialists, as needed
- Indicated laboratory, cardiac, and radiologic testing according to the pre-transplant evaluation protocol

The pre-transplant phase continues until the patient receives a transplant. During the pre-transplant phase, the patient will be seen regularly by their Transplant Nephrologist with visit frequency dependent on the severity of illness. A Transplant Social Worker, Transplant Dietitian, Transplant Coordinator, Transplant Pharmacist and Transplant Surgeon will be available for additional consultation as appropriate.

Multidisciplinary Transplant Selection Committee

All patients undergoing a formal evaluation for transplantation will be discussed at the multidisciplinary Transplant Selection Committee. This meeting will be attended by Transplant Nephrologists, Transplant Surgeons, Transplant Coordinators, Transplant Social Workers/Business Coordinators, Transplant Pharmacist, Infectious Disease and Transplant Dietitian. During the committee, the Transplant Pharmacist will conduct a chart review to assess the patient’s pharmacological needs, make recommendations, and document accordingly. Other transplant specialists (i.e. anesthesia, cardiology, pulmonology, etc.) will attend upon request. Discussions and attendance at these meetings will be documented in the patient’s medical record.

Transplant

The transplant phase of care begins when the patient is admitted to the hospital for the transplant operation. Patients who are admitted to the hospital for a transplant will be admitted under the care of the Transplant Surgeon on-call. The transplant team will manage the patient’s care, with

recommendations from other specialists as needed. Multidisciplinary conferences will include the Transplant Nephrologists, Transplant Surgeon, Transplant Coordinator, Transplant Social Worker/Business Coordinator, Transplant Pharmacist and Transplant Dietitian. All members of the multidisciplinary team will assess the patient during the in-patient stay.

Discharge Process

All members of the multidisciplinary team will participate in the discharge planning process and education of patient/family. Multidisciplinary discharge plan of care and education is documented and written discharge information is provided for patient/family to take home. Medication reconciliation is completed prior to discharge. A test is given to patient to determine educational effectiveness and identify any gaps requiring further education.

Post-Transplant

The post-transplant phase begins at the time of discharge following transplant surgery. All patient needs identified during the discharge process will be reviewed post-discharge by the appropriate multidisciplinary team members. Patients who are discharged following a transplant will be scheduled to return to the outpatient clinic with follow-up as identified per Transplant Department policy.

Each member of the transplant multidisciplinary team is responsible for participating in QAPI reviews, analysis, and improvement initiative processes.

Reference: CMS Conditions of Participation for Transplant Centers 42 CFR 482.94 Tag X081