

Living Donor Paired
Exchange Registry

HOW CAN A LIVING KIDNEY DONOR PAIRED EXCHANGE HELP US?

Answers to your BIG QUESTIONS.



Canadian Blood Services
it's in you to give

YOU HAVE A LOT OF BIG QUESTIONS.

The Living Donor Paired Exchange Registry may be the answer.

At Canadian Blood Services, we are committed to helping Canadians help each other. By building and operating a national Living Donor Paired Exchange Registry, we aim to help more individuals living with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD).

The Living Donor Paired Exchange Registry works in partnership with Canada's kidney transplant community – giving incompatible living donors another way to help a CKD patient receive a kidney transplant.

Read on to find out how the National Living Donor Paired Exchange Registry works, and how it may be able to help.

WHAT IS LIVING KIDNEY DONATION?

The kidney transplants that most people are familiar with are those using a kidney donated by someone who has died – this is known as deceased donation. It is also possible for a healthy living person to donate a kidney – a living kidney donation. Living kidney donation involves a surgery to remove the kidney from a **living donor**. The kidney is then transplanted into a patient who needs a kidney transplant – the **recipient**. The donor and recipient are known as a donor-recipient pair.

WHY DO WE NEED LIVING KIDNEY DONATION?

Kidney failure is also known as Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD). An individual with CKD has three treatment possibilities: dialysis, a transplant from a deceased donor, or a transplant from a living donor.

Transplantation is a preferred alternative to dialysis. Unfortunately, there are not enough deceased kidney donations to help everyone who needs a kidney transplant. Many patients on the wait list will never receive a kidney transplant.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF LIVING KIDNEY DONATION?

- A kidney from a living donor is usually healthier, may function better, and may last longer than a kidney from a deceased donor.

- Patients with CKD often wait many years for a kidney transplant from a deceased donor. Living donation shortens the wait time for CKD patients. Living donation also helps other patients with CKD because when a patient receives a transplant from a living donor, he/she is removed from the wait list, so there is one less patient waiting for a deceased kidney donation.
- Some patients will be able to receive a living donor kidney transplant without having to begin dialysis.
- The donation and transplant surgeries can be scheduled when both the donor and the recipient are in the best possible health.
- Many people who have donated a kidney say that helping to improve the health of someone in need is a very positive personal experience.

CAN ANYONE DONATE A KIDNEY?

Any adult who is in general good health can be assessed for living kidney donation. Blood tests will first determine whether the donor is a potential match for the recipient. If so, the donor and recipient are called a **compatible pair**. Additional tests will then make sure that both are medically able to undergo the surgeries. Only then can a transplant be approved.

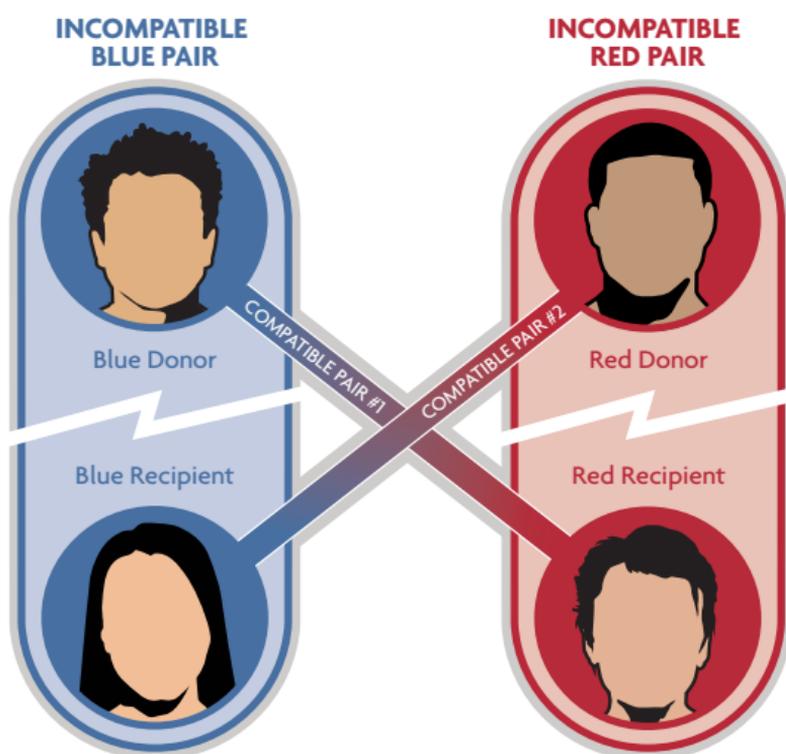
If the blood tests indicate that the recipient and donor do not match, they are called an **incompatible pair**. This means that the donor's blood type is not compatible with the recipient's blood type or the recipient has proteins in his/her blood (known as antibodies) that will reject that donor's kidney.

HOW DOES THE NATIONAL LIVING DONOR PAIRED EXCHANGE (LDPE) REGISTRY WORK?

When an incompatible donor and recipient are interested in a paired exchange, medical tests are done to see if they are healthy enough to participate. If they qualify, their medical information is entered into the LDPE Registry as a pair.

The LDPE Registry is a secure computer database. It contains medical information about incompatible donor-recipient pairs from across Canada. The Registry compares the medical information on all the pairs in the database and identifies pairs that might be able to exchange donors.

Here's how it works:



- *Let's say Blue Donor wishes to donate a kidney to Blue Recipient, but they are not a match.*
- *Red Donor would like to donate a kidney to Red Recipient, but they are not a match.*
- *However, Blue Donor is a match with Red Recipient and Red Donor is a match with Blue Recipient.*
- *By being in the Registry, the computer can identify these matches so doctors can determine if it is possible to exchange donors. Both recipients will be closer to possibly receiving a transplant.*

IS LIVING DONOR PAIRED EXCHANGE NEW?

No. In fact, living donor-recipient pairs in Canada have been matched, exchanged donors, and had successful kidney transplants. Paired exchange is an established practice throughout the world.

WHAT IS THE ADVANTAGE OF A NATIONAL LDPE REGISTRY?

The National LDPE Registry gives incompatible donors another way to help a CKD patient receive a transplant.

The chance of finding a matching donor increases if there are more donors to select from. The LDPE registry can search a large number of pairs from all over Canada for potential donor exchanges. Without an electronic national registry, only a small number of pairs can be evaluated at one time, making the potential matches more difficult to identify.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

The participation of all donors and recipients in this Registry must be completely voluntary. All participants involved are free to withdraw at any time before the donor operations take place.

Canadian Blood Services – dedicated to keeping Canadians healthy.

Canadian Blood Services is a national, not-for-profit charitable organization that provides national leadership for organ and tissue donation and transplantation. In addition, Canadian Blood Services manages the supply of blood and blood products in all provinces and territories outside of Quebec. We also oversee the OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network, Canada's network of stem cell donors.

www.blood.ca/organsandtissues

1 888 2 DONATE
(1-888-236-6283)



Canadian Blood Services
it's in you to give

ATION? CAN ANYONE DONATE A
LIVING DONOR PAIRED EXCHAN
TIONAL LDPE REGISTRY? HOW
DO WE NEED LIVING KIDNEY DO
HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE ABC
REGISTRY WORK? IS LIVING DO
OUT MORE ABOUT LIVING DON
WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES O
DONOR PAIRED EXCHANGE? HO
PAIRED EXCHANGE NEW? WHAT
PAIRED EXCHANGE? WHAT IS LI
LIVING KIDNEY DONATION? CA
DOES THE CANADIAN LIVING DO
ADVANTAGE OF A NATIONAL LD
KIDNEY DONATION? WHY DO V
ANYONE DONATE A KIDNEY? HO
DONOR PAIRED EXCHANGE (LD
LDPE REGISTRY? HOW DO I FIN
NEED LIVING KIDNEY DONATIO
FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LIVING
WORK? IS LIVING DONOR PAIR
ABOUT LIVING DONOR PAIRED
THE
PAIR
CHA
CHA
KIDN
THE CANADIAN LIVING DONOR

