

Living Donor Paired
Exchange Registry

CAN I BE A KIDNEY DONOR?

Answers for Potential Non-Directed
Kidney Donors



Canadian Blood Services
it's in you to give

YOU HAVE A LOT OF BIG QUESTIONS.

The Living Donor Paired Exchange Registry (the “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 living donors another way to help CKD patients receive a kidney transplant.

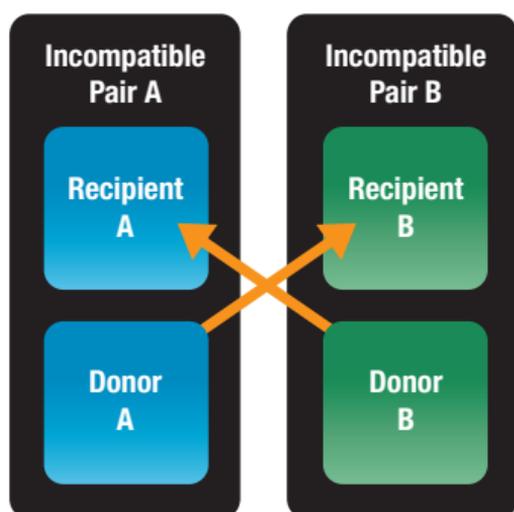
WHAT IS LIVING KIDNEY DONATION?

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**.

Any healthy person can be assessed for kidney donation. Some people come forward and offer to donate a kidney to anyone in need of a kidney transplant. If you would like to donate a kidney but do not know a person to whom you can donate directly, you are known as a **Non-Directed Donor**. Usually, a Non-Directed Donor helps by donating a kidney to one person on the transplant wait list. The Registry offers the opportunity for Non-Directed Donors to try to help more than one person in need of a transplant.

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

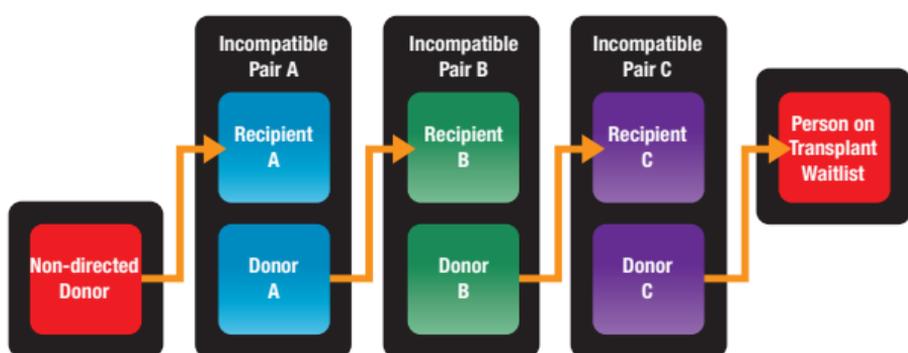
In some cases, when a person with Chronic Kidney Disease needs a kidney transplant, someone they know may offer to donate a kidney to them but blood tests reveal that they are not a match. This means that their blood types are not compatible or the person with CKD has proteins in his/her blood (known as antibodies) that will reject the donor's kidney. In this case, the donor and the person needing a transplant, i.e. the potential recipient, are known as an **incompatible pair** because it is not medically ideal for the potential recipient to receive a kidney from that donor.



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

HOW CAN A NON-DIRECTED DONOR PARTICIPATE IN THE REGISTRY?

A Non-Directed Donor has the potential to help one or more recipients in the Registry plus a person on the transplant wait list. Here's how:



- A Non-Directed Donor donates a kidney to a compatible recipient in the Registry (e.g. Recipient A).
- That recipient's incompatible donor (Donor A) would donate to a compatible recipient in the Registry (e.g. Recipient B), and so on, until there is a donor that does not match any recipients in the Registry (e.g. Donor C).
- The unmatched donor at the end of the sequence (e.g. Donor C) would donate a kidney to a compatible recipient on the transplant wait list.

A sequence of several donor-to-recipient matches is referred to as a transplant **domino**.

WHAT WILL BE REQUIRED OF ME?

To participate in the Registry, you will first need to sign a form consenting to the collection and use of your medical information in the Registry database. Your Living Donor Coordinator will arrange for you to complete the qualifying medical tests. If you are found to be suitable for surgery, your personal and medical information will be entered into the Registry as a Non-Directed Donor.

If the Registry identifies a possible recipient for your kidney, the match will need to be approved by your transplant team and the potential recipient's transplant team. If your donation starts a domino sequence, all the transplant teams must approve the exchanges for their donors and recipients. The transplant teams will then work with all participants to arrange the donation and transplantation logistics and surgeries.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT LIVING KIDNEY DONATION?

Paired exchange is an established practice throughout the world. Living donor-recipient pairs and Non-Directed Donors have been matched in Canada and successful kidney donations and transplants have been completed.

A kidney from a living donor is usually healthier, may function better, and may last longer than a kidney from a deceased donor. Recipients who receive a kidney transplant through this Registry have the potential to receive these benefits of living donation and the kidney will be a better match for him/her than a kidney from a deceased donor.

There is a rare possibility that your kidney might not be a successful transplant for the recipient. In approximately 5% of cases, a transplanted kidney does not work; this is usually due to unforeseen medical problems.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

The participation of all donors and recipients in this Registry must be completely voluntary. You, and any of the people involved, are free to withdraw at any time before your surgery.

Your transplant team may decide at any time that donating a kidney is no longer appropriate for you. If this happens, you will not be matched with any of the recipients in the Registry.

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

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