



- **Your Healthcare Team** - Members of your healthcare team may include your family doctor, a specialist or your primary care provider. These people can help coordinate medical care with your transplant team.
- **Pharmacist** - If your transplant team has a pharmacist, he or she will review your medications with you, make sure you and the members of your healthcare team know what you are taking, and help make sure that you have all of your prescriptions.
- **Dietitian** - This expert in nutrition will help you plan the kinds and amounts of foods to eat. He or she will help you choose foods based on your current health, other medical conditions and blood test results.



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## Getting to Know **YOUR KIDNEY TRANSPLANT TEAM**



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# GETTING TO KNOW YOUR KIDNEY TRANSPLANT TEAM

## Knowing Your Team is Important...

...because they will help you through the transplant process and help you to make sure your transplant is as successful as possible. Each team member is an expert in a different area of the transplant process. As the patient, YOU are the most important member of the team because you know your body best.

Before your transplant takes place, you are called a “transplant candidate.” After the transplant operation, you are called a “transplant recipient.” Your transplant team includes all or some of the following health professionals.

- **Transplant Coordinator** - The coordinator is usually a nurse or Advanced Practitioner. He or she will be responsible for the recipient's evaluation, treatment and follow-up care.
- **Transplant Surgeon** - The doctor who performs the transplant surgery. Transplant surgeons have received specialized training to perform transplants.
- **Transplant Practitioners** - (or Transplant Nephrology practitioner) Practitioners at the transplant center who manage your medical care, tests and medications. Transplant practitioners do not perform surgery, but work closely with the coordinator to manage your care before and after the surgery.
- **Transplant Unit Staff Nurses** - The staff nurses work closely with you while you are in the hospital. They take care of you and explain your tests, medications and follow-up care.
- **Financial Coordinators** - This coordinator helps you determine how to pay for your care before, during and after your transplant. He or she will work with other members of the team as well as insurers and administrative personnel.
- **Social Worker** - The social worker helps you and your family know what to expect and how best to cope with problems that may arise with the transplant process.