

Liver Transplant Evaluation

What is a Liver Transplant Evaluation?

A liver transplant evaluation is a series of medical tests and meetings with professionals at a transplant center. The purpose of this evaluation is to check if a liver transplant would be safe and recommended for you.

Who is on the Transplant Team?

The transplant team includes a physician, surgeon, nurse, transplant coordinator, psychiatrist, social worker/financial coordinator, and nutritionist.

The Evaluation

The transplant evaluation will consist of the following:

- Detailed medical history and physical examination
- Psychological and social evaluation
- Tests to evaluate your heart, lungs and other organs
- Imaging studies such as CT scans and ultrasound that will provide details about your liver and blood flow through various vessels
- Blood tests to determine your blood type, organ function, and to detect any infectious, immune, or inherited diseases
- Drug and alcohol screening

The pre-transplant evaluation often takes four to five hours. The person who will be involved in your pre and post-transplant care should join you at this appointment.

What Happens Next?

Once you complete all required testing, the transplant selection committee will review your case. If the committee determines that you are a suitable candidate for transplantation, your name will be placed on the national transplant waiting list. This list is maintained by the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), which administers the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN), responsible for organ transplant distribution in the USA.

You can also ask your transplant coordinator if you may be a candidate to receive a transplant from a living liver donor. This may be an option for some people.

To learn more about liver transplant evaluation, scan the QR code below. For a complete list of all of our free resources, please visit: liverfoundation.org/resource-center.

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For questions about liver wellness and disease, or for emotional support to patients at the point of crisis and information on local resources including physician referrals, please contact our Helpline at 1-800-465-4837.

