

UW HEALTH TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

Living Kidney Donation Program

Nurse Coordinators



Karen Miller, RN, BSN, CCTC

Karen Miller is a registered nurse transplant coordinator who works with kidney transplant patients and living donors prior to transplantation. She manages all aspects of paired kidney exchange through the National Kidney Registry. She also coordinates desensitization for highly sensitized transplant patients. She earned her bachelor of science degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI. She is a certified clinical transplant coordinator.



Kathleen Schappe, RN, BSN, CCTC

Kathy Schappe is a registered nurse transplant coordinator who works with living kidney donors and coordinates the non-directed kidney donor program. She earned her bachelor of science degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. She is a certified clinical transplant coordinator.



Shannon Tuscic, RN

Shannon Tuscic is a registered nurse transplant coordinator who works with living kidney donors prior to and following donation. She earned her associate degree in nursing at Madison College, Madison, WI, and, in 2019, will graduate with a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Chamberlain University, Downers Grove, IL.



Leza Warnke, RN, BAN

Leza Warnke is a registered nurse transplant coordinator who works with living kidney donors prior to and following donation. She earned her bachelor of arts degree in nursing from the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, MN.

Dietitian



Rebecca Wallschlaeger, MS, RD, CD

Rebecca Wallschlaeger is a clinical nutritionist who specializes in nutrition for abdominal and thoracic transplant patients, providing nutrition care to optimize outcomes for recipients and donors prior to and following their procedures. She earned her bachelor of science degree in dietetics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, and her master's degree in dietetics from Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS.

Inpatient Nursing Leads



Elaine Snyder, RN, BSN

Elaine Snyder is the nurse manager of the University Hospital inpatient abdominal transplant unit. She earned her bachelor of science degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.



Jessica Viste, MS, RN, ACNS-BC, CCTN

Jessica Viste is the abdominal transplant clinical nurse specialist. She earned both her bachelor of science degree and master's degree in the adult health clinical nurse specialist program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.

Management



Nancy Jones, RN, BSN

Nancy Jones is the manager for the abdominal transplant clinic. She earned her bachelor of science degree in nursing from Marian University, Fond du Lac, WI.



Megan Spina, MSW, LCSW

Megan Spina is the Living Donor Program Manager. She also serves as a living donor clinical social worker and the Independent Living Donor Advocate. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in social work at New York University, New York, NY.



Colleen was a non-directed kidney donor

Transplant Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday only 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location

University Hospital F8/152, MC 1735
600 Highland Ave.
Madison, WI 53792

To Refer a Living Donor

uwhealth.org/CanIBeADonor

Office

(608) 263-1384

Fax

(608) 262-5624

Website

uwhealth.org/livingdonor

To request living kidney donation

education materials:
transplant@uwhealth.org

UW HEALTH TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

Living Kidney Donation Program

Welcome

The physicians and staff of the UW Health Living Kidney Donation Program are pleased to provide customized, personalized care to fit the needs of each living kidney donor.

Our Living Kidney Donation Team

- Living Donor Advocate who represents the donor's wishes and needs
- Kidney transplant surgeons who serve as members of the faculty of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Department of Surgery
- Kidney transplant physicians and nephrologists who serve as members of the faculty of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Department of Medicine
- Registered nurse transplant coordinators who specialize in the care of transplant patients. Most are certified clinical transplant coordinators
- Physician Assistants
- Nurse Practitioners
- Clinic nurses
- Social workers
- Dietitians
- Pharmacists
- Inpatient nurses who provide care to patients during their hospital stay
- Financial counselors

Living Kidney Donation Services

- Education about the living donation process
- Online donor screening tool
- Donor evaluations and testing
- Education on our six donation options
- Active participation in the national kidney exchange program
- Financial consultation and tax benefits education
- Education to assist those seeking a living donor
- Champion program
- Living donor nephrectomy
- Rapid recovery program
- Mentor program

See the inside for photographs and brief biographies of surgeons and physicians.

Living Kidney Donation Program

Surgeons



David Al-Adra, MD, PhD

Dr. Al-Adra earned his medical degree from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. He completed his residency at the University of Alberta Hospital/Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, Edmonton, AB, Canada and his fellowship at Toronto General Hospital, Toronto, ON, Canada. Dr. Al-Adra is board certified in surgery.



Anthony D'Alessandro, MD

Dr. D'Alessandro is the surgical director of pediatric kidney, pediatric liver, and multi-organ transplant, and is medical director of UW Organ and Tissue Donation. He earned his medical degree from Hahnemann University, Philadelphia, PA, and completed his residency and fellowship at University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Dr. D'Alessandro is board certified in surgery.



Luis Fernandez, MD

Dr. Fernandez is the surgical director of the adult liver transplant program and co-director of islet cell transplant. He earned his medical degree from Universidad Central de Venezuela, Jose Maria Vargas School of Medicine, Caracas, Venezuela, and completed his residency at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL. He completed his fellowship at University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Dr. Fernandez is board certified in surgery.



David Foley, MD

Dr. Foley is the surgical director of the William S. Middleton Veterans Administration liver transplant program and the UW Health Transplant Clinic. He earned his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, and completed his residency at the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA. He completed his fellowship at University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Dr. Foley is board certified in surgery.



Joshua Mezrich, MD

Dr. Mezrich is the surgical director of the living kidney donor program. He earned his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College, New York, NY, and completed his residency at the University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL. He completed his fellowship at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Dr. Mezrich is board certified in surgery.



Robert Redfield, MD

Dr. Redfield earned his medical degree from University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, and completed his residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. He completed his fellowship at University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Dr. Redfield is board certified in surgery.

Physicians



Fahad Aziz, MD

Dr. Aziz earned his medical degree from King Edward Medical College, Lahore, Pakistan, and completed his residency at Jersey City Medical Center, Jersey City, NJ. He completed his nephrology fellowship at the University of Missouri Hospital and Clinics, Columbia, MO, and his transplant medicine fellowship at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Dr. Aziz is a certified hypertension specialist, and is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology.



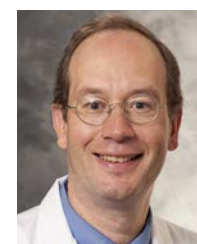
Arjang Djamali, MD

Dr. Djamali is the chair of the division of nephrology and the medical director of islet cell transplant. He earned his medical degree from Montpellier Medical School, Montpellier, France. He completed his residency at Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, MI and his fellowship at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Dr. Djamali is board certified in nephrology.



Neetika Garg, MD

Dr. Garg earned her medical degree from All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India, and completed her residencies at Boston University Medical Center, Boston, MA and All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India. She completed her fellowship at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA. Dr. Garg is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology.



Didier Mandelbrot, MD

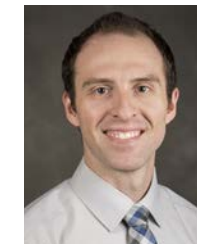
Dr. Mandelbrot is the medical director of kidney and pancreas transplant, and the living kidney donor program. He earned his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, and completed his residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. He completed his fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA. Dr. Mandelbrot is board certified in nephrology.



Maha Mohamed, MD

Dr. Mohamed earned her medical degree from the University of Khartoum School of Medicine, Sudan. She completed her residency at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital and Clinics, Cooperstown, NY, and her transplant fellowship at University of California San Francisco Medical Center, San Francisco, CA. Dr. Mohamed is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology.

Mid-level Providers



Justin Blazel, NP

Justin Blazel is a certified nurse practitioner who provides care for kidney transplant recipients as well as other organ recipients who have chronic kidney disease. He sees patients primarily in the transplant clinic and also manages patients who have kidney-delayed graft function. He earned both his bachelor and master of science degrees in nursing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.



Scot Johnson, NP

Scot Johnson is a certified nurse practitioner who works with kidney, liver and pancreas transplant patients in the transplant clinic. He earned his bachelor of science degree in nursing from Bellin College, Green Bay, WI, and his master's degree as a nurse practitioner from Concordia University, Mequon, WI.



Brenda Muth, NP

Brenda Muth is a certified nurse practitioner who provides care for kidney transplant recipients, as well as other organ recipients who have chronic kidney disease. She earned both her bachelor of science and her master's degrees in nursing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.



Jennifer Turk, NP

Jennifer Turk is a certified nurse practitioner who provides care for kidney transplant recipients, as well as other organ recipients who have chronic kidney disease. She earned her bachelor of science degree in nursing from Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI, and her master's degree in nursing from Clarke College, Dubuque, IA.