Adult Liver Transplant Program
THE TRANSPLANT CENTER

For people with advanced liver disease, a liver transplant is a life-saving procedure. A liver transplant is surgery to remove a diseased liver and replace it with a healthy liver from a donor.

At University of Minnesota Medical Center, we have performed more than 1,000 liver transplants. Our team of transplant surgeons, physicians and staff are committed to providing the best possible care to patients and families throughout the transplant process.

University of Minnesota Physicians have led the region and nation with many firsts in the field of liver transplant. In 1981, we were the first in the Midwest region to perform a combined liver-kidney transplant. A combined liver-pancreas transplant followed in 1990 and a combined liver-intestine transplant in 1996.

Many different diseases can lead to the need for a liver transplant. These include:

- cirrhosis
- diseases of the bile ducts
- some inherited diseases
- liver cancer

As a result of our pioneering research, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of patients who are candidates for liver transplant. Unfortunately, there is still a significant shortage of deceased donor livers. This has resulted in a greater gap between the number of patients waiting for a liver, and the number getting a transplant. About 1,400 people die each year while on the waiting list.

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For more information or to make a referral to the Liver Transplant Program, please call: 612-625-5115 or 800-328-5465.

Clinic Location:
The Transplant Center
University of Minnesota Medical Center
Phillips-Wangensteen Building
Clinic 2A
516 Delaware St. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455
www.uofmtransplant.org

Mike, liver transplant recipient.
Living donation helps bridge the gap

To help combat the shortage of donor livers, we continue to build our Living Donor Program as a partial solution. In 1997, we began performing living donor adult-to-child, partial liver transplants. During this procedure, the surgeon transplants a piece of liver from a living adult donor into the child. We expanded that practice to include adult-to-adult partial liver transplants in 1999.

Between 2006 and 2008, we performed the second highest number of adult living donor liver transplants in the nation. Our one-year survival rate after a living donor liver transplant is nearly 98 percent. Many people are now opting to help extend someone’s life by donating a portion of their liver to a relative, friend or co-worker.

Our transplant team also continues to pursue cutting-edge technology in the area of liver transplantation. This includes new techniques for treating hepatitis C and hepatitis B and for managing liver failure.