Q: What is the phone number and address of the transplant center?

A: There may be more than one transplant center within travel distance from your home. Things you will want to find out to help you decide between them include:

- Where your insurance will pay the most
- Where your doctor refers patients
- How far you will need to go for the transplant and clinic visits
- The number of patients on the waiting list
- How a living donor’s kidney will be removed
- The number of kidney transplants the center does each year
- The center’s success rate
- Where you have the most confidence in the transplant staff

**National organ list:** If you don’t have a donor, you may be able to receive a kidney from a deceased person. The United Network for Organ Sharing keeps a nationwide list. Kidneys are given to those with the closest blood and tissue match first, but you earn points for waiting time. *Never assume that you are on a transplant list.* Always ask your doctor.

**What I can do to find out more about transplant:**

- Call my insurance company and ask about my coverage for transplant.
- Ask my doctor where he or she refers patients for transplant and why.
- Visit transplant centers and talk with the staff and patients.
- Visit module 2 of Kidney School™: [Treatment Options for Kidney Disease](http://www.kidneyschool.org) at [www.kidneyschool.org](http://www.kidneyschool.org) to learn more about transplant.

**What insurance will pay:** Medicare will cover your transplant anywhere in the U.S. If you have any other kind of health insurance, it may only cover a transplant at a certain transplant center or it may pay more at certain centers than at others.

**Living donor testing:** If you have family or friends who want to donate a kidney, they will need testing to see if they are in good health and a good match. The transplant team can tell you and your donor what to expect from surgery and recovery, including your diet, drugs, and how to stay healthy.