

**Recipient Care Partner**

1. **What is a Care Partner?**

Care Partners help the patient through the entire transplant process. They support the patient’s health and well-being so they have a great transplant experience.

Care Partners are a very important member of the patient care team. So important that patients cannot be accepted for transplant without one!

We want to make sure that the kidney transplant is a success. Research shows that people who have a Care Partner for transplant have fewer mistakes with medicine, more satisfaction and greater success. This is why it is so important that all of our transplant patients have a Care Partner from beginning to end.

1. **What are the responsibilities of a Care Partner?**

The Care Partner helps the patient through the transplant process with many things. This includes:

* Driving and going to appointments
* Help with medicines
* Watching how the patient is doing
* Helping with wound care
* Helping around the house

Please look at the Care Partner brochure for more information about Care Partner duties.

1. **My situation has changed and my Care Partner is no longer available. What do I do?**

Tell us right away. Having a Care Partner is a requirement for transplantation. Let us know so we can talk about it.

1. **Can the donor and the recipient have the same Care Partner?**

No. We understand that there are situations where it would be easiest to have the same Care Partner. However, we have found that having the same Care Partner means one person has less care and attention. We want to make sure that both the donor and the recipient have the best recovery possible.

1. **My Care Partner cannot make one of the pre-transplant/in the hospital/ post-transplant appointments- is that ok?**

Being a Care Partner is a big duty and each appointment is important. It is our policy that a patient will not be accepted for transplant if they do not have a Care Partner at the appointments before transplant. It is important that the Care Partner goes to 3-4 education appointments in the hospital. The Care Partner must also go to the appointments after transplant. Please think about this when committing to be a Care Partner.

1. **My Care Partner cannot come to every appointment through the process- can I have more than one Care Partner?**

Let’s talk about it. The best situation is one Care Partner who participates throughout the process. It is hard to arrange information and appointments when more than one person is involved. But, we do understand the huge commitment of being a Care Partner and would be happy to talk about your situation.

1. **I still have more questions.**

We are happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Feel free to call us at 503-413-6555.