
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POST-TRANSPLANT PATIENTS

Follow current guidance and the recommended COVID-19 vaccine schedule for immunocompromised people on the CDC website available here.

- If you have been treated for rejection in the past month, please check with your transplant team regarding timing of your next dose.
- Please notify your transplant coordinator with the brand of each COVID-19 vaccine dose and the date received. Patients who have not received the COVID-19 vaccine primary series are encouraged to do so immediately and notify the transplant team.
- Transplant recipients should continue wearing a mask while in public and around people who have not been vaccinated, even if you have been vaccinated. Also, avoid people who have not been vaccinated and do not have them in your home if possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PRE-TRANSPLANT PATIENTS, LIVING DONORS AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

Follow current guidance and recommended COVID-19 vaccine schedule for the general population on the CDC website available here.

Pre-transplant patients (in referral, evaluation or listed for transplant)
- Vaccinate immediately if age 6 months and older
- If scheduled for living donor transplant, recipients should not receive the vaccine less than 2 weeks before the scheduled transplant date
- Patient to inform pre-transplant coordinator after receiving each dose of vaccine (type and date)

Patients in evaluation to be living donors and those approved to be living donors
- Vaccinate pre-donation
- If scheduled for donation, we prefer you are either fully vaccinated before donation or wait until after donation to start the vaccine process
- Patient to inform living donor coordinator after receiving each dose of vaccine (type and date)
Transplant

Living Donors who have already donated
- While we recommend the vaccine, you should discuss this with your primary care physician

Household Members
- Vaccinate immediately if age 6 months and older. This is especially important for anyone in the household of a transplant recipient

Recommendations for All Transplant Patients
- To schedule your free vaccine, contact your local health department or vaccine site, including primary care physician office, walk-in clinic or pharmacy. (Pediatric heart transplant patients are encouraged to get vaccines at Riley during scheduled clinic visits.)
- Post-vaccine antibody testing is not recommended.
- Both pre- and post-transplant patients should continue to practice good hand hygiene, social distancing and avoiding crowds.
- If you have had a lung transplant and you develop any “cold-like” symptoms, notify your transplant coordinator.
- Maintain a minimum two week supply of all medication, keeping in mind any dosage changes.
- Contact your transplant coordinator if experiencing a cough or fever prior to any visit to the hospital for clinic, labs or rehab.

National Research Study
Transplant recipients have an opportunity to participate in a national research study to gain more information of how well transplant recipients develop the desired antibody levels in response to receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. The study does not provide the vaccine and study team members will not offer guidance on whether you should receive the vaccine or not. If you are interested in participating in this research, visit transplantvaccine.org to register. Direct all questions about the study to covidvaccine@jhmi.edu. Please do not call your transplant coordinator about the research study.