

# Fact Sheet:

## Kidney Transplantation in NC

When someone experiences kidney failure, there are three potential treatments: 1) hemodialysis, 2) peritoneal dialysis, and 3) kidney transplantation. Frequently, patients consider the quality of life afforded by a successful kidney transplant to be better than the quality of life associated with dialysis.

### Kidney Transplant Fast Facts

There are 2 types of kidney transplants: those that come from living donors and those that come from unrelated donors who have died (non-living donors).

In 2008:

100,811 people in the US were waiting for lifesaving organ transplants

*In North Carolina:*

- 2,456 persons were on waiting lists for a kidney
- 524 kidney transplants were performed
- There were 238 deceased kidney donors and 115 live kidney donors
- 61.8% of licensed drivers were actionable designated donors

### If you are interested in becoming a living kidney donor you should know that:

- Transplant *only* occurs if there is: 1) a good chance of successful outcome for the recipient, 2) low risk to the donor (you), and 3) voluntary consent of both parties.
- You must have health insurance to ensure care for any health problems detected in your pre-transplantation medical examination,
- Over 90% of donors experience no complications at all
- A matched pair donation is an option if you are not a compatible donor for your loved one

### If you would like to become an organ donor:

Register as an organ donor on your North Carolina driver's license

<https://www.donatelifenc.org/becomeadonor/> or

[http://www.ncdot.org/dmv/other\\_services/general/electives.html](http://www.ncdot.org/dmv/other_services/general/electives.html)