Our transplant team members are committed to providing the highest quality transplant services in a family-centered environment. Our uniquely qualified staff members work with the patient, family and referring physicians to ensure optimal treatment before, during and after transplant.

Program Highlights

- For more than 27 years, Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin has been offering hope for children with chronic kidney failure through our Kidney Transplant Program.
- We have performed more than 180 kidney transplants.
- In 2012, we performed 10 kidney transplants.
- We performed the first successful pediatric heart-kidney transplant in the Midwest United States.
- At Children’s Hospital, we perform unique, successful kidney transplants such as heart-kidney, liver-kidney and bone marrow-liver-kidney transplants.
- We perform transplants using donors who are relatives of the child, living nonrelatives and deceased donors.
- We offer living donor transplants (50 percent of kidney transplants), which decreases wait times.
- 100 percent of patients return to school about a month after transplant.
- We collaborate with researchers at BloodCenter of Wisconsin to perform ABO-incompatible transplants and work with potential recipients who are highly human leukocyte antigen (HLA) sensitized donors. For some patients, this can alleviate the long wait for a kidney.
- Our youngest kidney transplant recipient was 14 months old at the time of transplant.
- Children’s Hospital consistently has a higher graft survival rate than that reported for children nationally.
- Children’s Hospital is one of only a few centers in the country to offer transplant as a treatment option for rare genetic disorders.

Our Transplant Center is a joint effort of Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin and Froedtert & The Medical College of Wisconsin with vital support by the BloodCenter of Wisconsin for tissue typing and research initiatives. Representing the most comprehensive pediatric and adult transplant care in Wisconsin, the program is recognized for nationally ranked outcomes, internationally known transplant specialists and end-stage disease management: a critical resource for Wisconsin and beyond.
Clinical outcomes

Children’s Hospital’s commitment to quality, advancements in surgical techniques and improvements in follow-up care allows us to achieve some of the best surgical outcomes in the nation.

Research shows that physicians and hospitals that treat a large number of patients tend to provide better care and have improved outcomes for treatments and procedures. This is especially true of transplants.

Survival at one month, one year and three years is 100 percent for kidney transplant patients at Children’s Hospital. Overwhelmingly, survival is the first and most important statistic parents ask about. In general, centers that have high survival rates for the most complex cases, including transplants, generally have high survival rates for all types of kidney transplants.

Graft survival indicates the proportion of transplanted kidneys that continue to function well enough that the patient does not need dialysis. Children’s Hospital graft survival rate is 100 percent at both one month and one year after a transplant for patients transplanted from Jan. 1, 2009, to June 30, 2011. Children’s Hospital’s graft survival is 93.3 percent three years after transplant for patients transplanted from July 1, 2006, to Dec. 31, 2011. Children’s Hospital consistently has a higher graft survival than that reported for children nationally.

*SRTR = Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients

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