How do I start the process to become a living donor?

Our donor coordinators will be happy to guide you. Contact Boston Medical Center's Living Donation Program team at donatelife@bmc.org or 617.638.8430.

Step 1

Initial medical evaluation: This includes a variety of blood tests to determine whether you can safely donate a kidney. (If you want to donate to someone you know but would like to get tested before telling the transplant candidate, please talk to one of our donor coordinators.)

Step 2

Detailed evaluation: If the initial medical evaluation finds that you can safely donate, the next step is a more in-depth evaluation, which will include additional medical tests to determine whether you are a good "match" with the recipient to prevent kidney rejection. You will meet with members of the team who will explain the process and answer any questions.

Learn more about living kidney donation at Boston Medical Center:

Living Kidney Donation Program

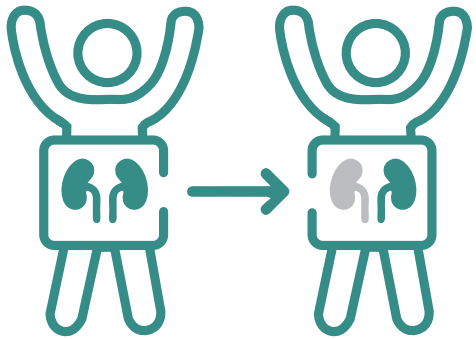
donatelife@bmc.org

617.638.8430

Become a Kidney Donor and Give the Gift of Life

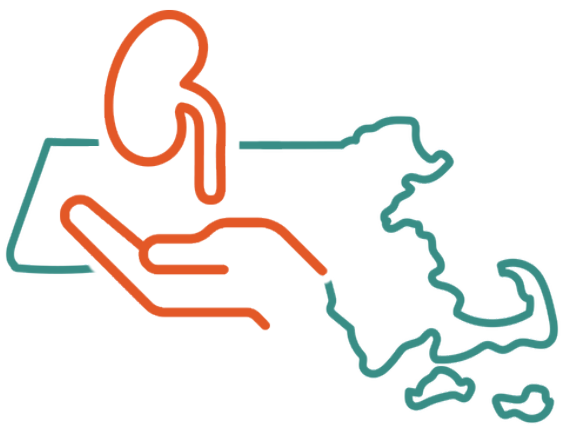
Boston Medical Center
HEALTH SYSTEM

Darren donated a kidney to his mom, Cherryl, who is grateful that she didn't have to have dialysis sessions every week while waiting for a kidney from a deceased donor to become available. Healthy and active, Darren does everything he did before donating one of his kidneys.



Who can donate?

Healthy people between the ages of 18 and 70.



Kidney donors save lives.

More than 3,000 people are waiting for a kidney transplant in Massachusetts. Kidney donation is safe. You can give someone a second chance.

You could be a donor for someone you know well—or don't know at all:

- Blood relative (parent, child, sibling, cousin…)
- Spouse or partner
- Friend, work colleague, or neighbor
- Member of your faith community
- Someone you follow on social media
- A stranger on the wait list

People in need of a kidney often reach out using various channels.

Who pays for the testing and the surgery?

The donor's medical costs will be paid by the recipient's insurance.

Four reasons to become a kidney donor:

1. A donated kidney is likely to be a better match with the recipient than one from a deceased donor, which means fewer potential complications.
2. A donated kidney has a much higher success rate than a kidney from a deceased donor and is likely to last longer.
3. You can save the recipient from dialysis while they are on the transplant wait list, which often has a wait time of 5 to 8 years.
4. Donors lead healthy, active lives with one kidney.