THE HENRY FORD TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE

Patient-focused. Forward-thinking. Life-saving.
INNOVATION

National leader, groundbreaking transplant care

In 1968, Henry Ford Hospital performed its first transplant, a kidney – one of the first transplants in the country. It is with this pioneering spirit that the Henry Ford Transplant Institute was formed in 2004, ushering in a new era for transplantation at Henry Ford.

Today, we are Michigan’s most comprehensive multi-organ transplant center and recognized as a national leader. Our state-of-the-art care is integrated and innovative, delivering life-saving treatment to a very ill population in a caring environment. Each transplant team uses advanced, minimally invasive and robotic surgical technology for living donors and transplant patients. This allows our surgeons to use keyhole-sized incisions when appropriate, making the procedures safer and recovery easier.

WHEN SERIOUS ILLNESS LEADS TO ORGAN FAILURE, PATIENTS AND THEIR PHYSICIANS TURN TO THE HENRY FORD TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE.

LEADERSHIP ON EVERY LEVEL

Our specialized organ transplant teams function across seven transplant areas:

- Bone Marrow
- Heart
- Lung
- Liver
- Kidney
- Pancreas
- Intestine and Multivisceral

Expert physicians and surgeons in each of these areas use advanced therapy and technology to deliver innovative, safe and effective care to ensure the best possible outcome and recovery.

THE VISION: The Henry Ford Transplant Institute will attract the most talented physicians and surgeons, create programmatic and leadership opportunities, and foster creativity and innovation, while promoting superior outcomes and wellness.

“THE INSTITUTE EXEMPLIFIES PATIENT-CENTERED CARE BY ENGAGING PATIENTS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS IN THE ENTIRE CARE PROCESS WITH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH PARTICIPATION. We envision expanding on our patient and family participation in care to shape our delivery around their needs.”

– Dr. Marwan Abouljoud, Director of the Henry Ford Transplant Institute
RESEARCH, DISCOVERY AND SUCCESS

The Transplant Institute team work to ensure that each transplant is successful and that every patient has access to the treatment that best meets their individual needs. This includes access to ongoing clinical trials.

Organ shortage has been a great challenge, but research in organ preservation is evolving rapidly – with unique preservation techniques helping to ensure the best organ function from all possible deceased organ donors.

Additionally, Henry Ford has launched its Center for Living Donation to match individuals willing to consider living donations with those in vital need. Living donor transplant can often be scheduled prior to the recipient becoming significantly ill, better yet, these donations typically last longer and work immediately.

Research in other areas, including transplant immunology with rejection monitoring and transplant genomics, holds great promise in ensuring excellent transplant outcomes, but more research is needed to determine which patients benefit from specific doses of immunosuppression drugs. Transplant genomics is another promising area of research, revealing more about molecular markers that can predict and improve outcomes.

THE VISION: The Henry Ford Transplant Institute will become one of the nation’s leading centers in the study of transplant outcome predictors and organ preservation, using new discoveries to increase the number of successful transplants.

INSPIRATION

Providing hope and a better quality of life.

The HFTI staff is devoted to saving as many lives as possible. Our surgeons serve on standby 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, often traveling long distances and out of state to recover donor organs and perform needed transplants.

In addition, we are expanding on our first-in-kind, statewide outreach programs, working with local communities through outreach connectivity and telemedicine – we see the potential to deliver the best integrated care across organ areas leading to improved patient outcomes and satisfaction with reduced costs.

INITIATIVES LIKE THESE ENSURE THAT PATIENTS HAVE ACCESS TO OUR EXPERTISE NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE.

However, the procedure itself is only the beginning, and many patients face challenges with the cost of a transplant – which can range from $275,000 to more than $1 million — anti-rejection medications and related support services. Patients often need to rely on several funding sources beyond insurance, which is why we created the Henry Ford Transplant Patient Emergency Needs Fund, to help those patients who need it most.

Throughout the transplant process, our team provides personalized support, helping both patients and their families navigate each step. This includes our unique Transplant Living Community, a group of transplant recipients who serve as patient ambassadors with institutional oversight – supporting patients, living donors, patient supporters and families from pre- to post-transplant.

OUR PLEDGE: To improve and extend life by meeting the needs of transplant patients and their families with compassionate, innovative and personalized quality care.

“Seeing my mom doing awesome after the surgery, 15 years later, just feels amazing. She’s doing wonderful and I see it, and I’m just overwhelmed with joy. In our situation, I felt like we were the only ones in the hospital. We were top priority, and that’s a good feeling.”

– LEAH WILLIAMS, who donated a portion of her liver to save her mother’s life during the first adult-to-adult, split-liver transplant performed in Michigan.