HEART TRANSPLANT
PATIENT SELECTION CRITERIA

Physicians seeking to refer a patient to the UAB Heart Transplant Program should be aware of the following criteria for consideration:

Reasons for heart transplantation:
• Left ventricular ejection fraction < 20%
• New York Heart Association Class III or IV
• Refractory angina or life threatening arrhythmias
• High risk of death within one year
• VO2 max < 14 ml/kg/min
• Refractory ischemia

Reasons a patient WILL NOT be able to receive a heart transplant:
• Active diverticulitis
• Acute pulmonary thromboembolism
• Acute psychosis of any type

Reasons a patient MAY NOT be able to receive a heart transplant:
• Older age (generally > 70 years)
• Presence of any non-cardiac condition that would shorten the life expectancy or increase risk of death
• Active peptic ulcer disease
• Active infection
• Recent neoplasm (definition of recent will depend on type and extent of malignancy)
• Severe diabetes mellitus with end organ damage
• Severe peripheral vascular disease or cerebrovascular disease
• Severe osteoporosis
• Severe cachexia
• Morbid obesity (BMI > 35kg/m2)
• Irreversible liver disease (bilirubin > 2.5 mg/dL, transaminases > 2 times normal not due solely to passive congestion)
• Evidence of Hepatitis C
• Irreversible renal disease (creatinine clearance < 50mL/min, ERPF < 200 mL/min)
• Pulmonary artery systolic pressure > 60mm Hg, mean transpulmonary gradient ≥ 15 mm Hg, and/or pulmonary vascular resistance > 3 units
• Significant COPD with or without a history of recurrent lung infections
• Current tobacco use or history of tobacco use (within 6 months)
• Active substance abuse or recent history (within 24 months) of substance abuse (alcohol or drug abuse) without evidence of structured rehabilitation program
• High risk for life threatening noncompliance
• Lack of social support system
• History of marked depression or emotional instability
• SIPAT score ≥ 40 as indicated in psychosocial evaluation

Please visit uabmedicine.org/referhearttransplant or call 205.975.9320 for more information.