LUNG TRANSPLANT
PATIENT SELECTION CRITERIA

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

COMMON INDICATIONS FOR TRANSPLANTATION:

• COPD: progressive deterioration of lung function and long-term oxygen requirements
• Cystic fibrosis and other bronchiectic disease: rapid progression of disease and/or multiple complications and hospitalizations
• Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis: progressive symptoms that are refractory to optimal medical management
• Systemic illness with associated interstitial lung disease
• Pulmonary hypertension that is refractory to optimal medical therapy
• Pulmonary hypertension secondary to congenital heart disease: severe, progressive symptoms with function at NYHA IIII or NYHA IV level despite optimal medical management
• Combined pulmonary and other organ failure: Candidate must meet all the criteria for transplant selection

CONTRAINDICATIONS TO TRANSPLANTATION:

• Age > 75
• Recent history of malignancy: This is individually assessed, and in some cases a disease-free interval of 2-5 years is acceptable
• Severe, uncorrectable coronary artery disease
• Acute medical instability
• Uncorrectable bleeding disorders
• Evidence of active mycobacterium tuberculosis infection
• Significant chest wall or spinal deformity that is expected to cause severe restriction after transplantation
• Class II or III obesity (body mass index [BMI] ≥35.0 kg/m2)
• Current non-adherence to medical therapy or a history of repeated or prolonged episodes of non-adherence to medical therapy that are perceived to increase the risk of non-adherence after transplantation
• Psychiatric or psychological conditions associated with the inability to cooperate with care team or complex medical therapy
• Absence of an adequate or reliable social support system
• Severely limited functional status with poor rehabilitation potential
• Substance abuse or dependence (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or other illicit substances)
• Irreversible neurological conditions that result in poor rehabilitation potential