

Supporting Patients in Their Donor Outreach Journey

This document provides staff with helpful tips that you can offer to your patients about living donor outreach.

- ◇ You don't need to ask for a kidney. The recommended approach is to tell others about your medical need for a transplant.
- ◇ If you are uncomfortable doing donor outreach and/or want to spread the word further, ask a friend or family member to help.
- ◇ Use the many donor outreach resources available, including the BC Transplant website, Kidney Foundation, and your home team Social Worker.
- ◇ Use donor outreach strategies that are comfortable for you.
- ◇ Be clear in your message that you are looking for a living donor. Otherwise, people may miss your point.
- ◇ Potential donors can be anyone in your social network including family, friends, acquaintances, neighbours, colleagues, members of faith community etc.
- ◇ Don't screen out potential donors yourself - let the donor team do the screening.
- ◇ Donors are thoroughly evaluated and their long-term health and safety is prioritized. If it's not safe the team will not let them donate.
- ◇ It is a confidential and donor-driven process, so you will not know if you have potential donors unless the potential donor tells you.
- ◇ The transplant centres can work-up multiple donors at the same time.
- ◇ Try not to take it personally if no one offers to donate. Kidney donation is not for everyone. The reasons have nothing to do with you.
- ◇ Be prepared that finding a living donor takes time and is a process.
- ◇ Remember that a deceased donor transplant is still a good option if there are no living donors.

Get support and take good care of yourself while you wait and remember this is a process.