

# Liver Transplantation When and How to Refer

# Mayo Clinic Transplant Center in Arizona

For Referrals or Information Phone – **480-342-1010** Fax – **480-342-2677** 

The liver transplant team is committed to working closely with referring physicians to coordinate: evaluation, treatment and pre and post-operative management of transplant patients.

#### Checklist for Making a Referral

- ☐ Make referral by phone, fax or online (www.mayoclinic.org/online-services)
- ☐ Fax patient's medical records to 480-342-2677.
- No insurance pre-authorization required. Mayo transplant financial coordinators will obtain authorization.

#### **Background Information**

Candidates for liver transplantation – patients with an acute or chronic condition that results in irreversible liver dysfunction, such as:

- Chronic cholestatic liver disease (i.e., primary biliary cirrhosis and primary sclerosing cholangitis)
- Chronic active hepatitis
- Early stage primary liver cancer (hepatocellular carcinoma)

## Clinical Criteria for liver transplant candidates:

- Suitable heart-lung function and no medical conditions that limit life expectancy
- Highly motivated to adhere to a strictly regimented medical program before and after surgery
- Commitment to the lifelong requirements of postoperative care and follow-up of immunosuppressive medications

United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) - Organization that administers and manages the nation's organ placement.

- MELD (Model for End Stage Liver Disease) System Numerical scale that prioritizes patients waiting for a liver transplant
- ▶ MELD score range: Lowest score 6 (less ill) to highest score 40 (very ill)
- MELD score is calculated based on lab values of Total Bilirubin, Creatinine, INR, Albumin (not included in score), Sodium (not included in score)
- Visit www.unos.org Resources (MELD calculator)

## Liver Transplant Evaluation at Mayo Clinic - What to Expect

Length of evaluation - Five days

- Dut of town patients need to allow five consecutive days.
- Local patients will be seen based on appointment availability.

Typical appointments include:

- ▶ Hepatologist Liver Specialist
- Nurse Transplant Coordinator
- Social worker
- ▶ Financial coordinator
- ▶ Transplant Surgeon
- Lab Tests

- Imaging (CT and/or MRI)
- Dental Panorex
- EGD/Colonoscopy
- Cardiopulmonary evaluation
- Psychiatry
- Infectious Disease

## After evaluation and testing

- If appropriate, patient will be listed with UNOS.
- When patient is placed on transplant list, it is helpful to have the referring physician office include a Complete Metabolic Panel (CMP) and INR if drawing other patient labs and fax the results to the Transplant Center at 480-342-2677.

Referrals may be made by phone **480-342-1010**, fax **480-342-2677** or online (Online Services for Referring Physicians - OSRP). To enroll in OSRP, visit www.mayoclinic.org/online-services.



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