



Living-Donor Liver Transplant at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

Pediatric living-donor liver transplant is a life-saving procedure for many children with advanced liver disease. The national waiting list for a liver is long, with a shortage of organs available.

Using a part of the liver from a healthy adult can reduce the wait time and save a child's life. At the Hillman Center for Pediatric Transplantation at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, we have performed living-donor liver transplants since 1997, and our team of experts is one of the most experienced in the world.

Liver Transplant Program Highlights

- We've performed more pediatric living-donor transplants in the last three years than any other center in the United States, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).
- We have the largest geographic draw of patients compared to other pediatric transplant centers in the country.
- We've performed more transplants for patients with metabolic disease than any other center, including adult facilities.

Autumn's Story



At nine months old, Autumn was diagnosed with biliary atresia — an obstruction of the bile ducts that can lead to cirrhosis of the liver. After researching their options, Autumn's family traveled from their home in St. Louis, Missouri, to UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh where doctors determined that Autumn needed a liver transplant. Her father, Mike, served as her living donor. Autumn and Mike had successful surgeries, and the family is grateful for the care they received and for Autumn's chance to experience the joys of childhood.

"We have our child thriving and enjoying life, and that's all we wanted," said Mike.



Benefits of Living-Donor Liver Transplant

Living-donor liver transplants offer many life-saving advantages.

For the recipient:

- **Shorter wait times** — This procedure can help eliminate the long wait on the national transplant waiting list.
- **Elective surgery advantage** — With living donation, the operation can be scheduled electively, when the recipient is in optimal condition, which increases the chance of success following transplantation.
- **Improved long-term outcomes** — Transplant candidates generally have better results and better genetic matches when they receive organs from living donors as compared to deceased donors.
- **Treatment options for many disorders** — Our program treats a range of disorders, including acute and end-stage liver disease as well as metabolic disorders.

For the donor:

- **Huge impact on a child's life** — Donors can feel good knowing they're contributing to a child's life in a meaningful way.
- **Living donors can save two lives** — Living donation removes a candidate from the national waiting list. This reduces the competition for the limited number of deceased-donor livers available for transplantation.

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Pediatric Liver Transplant Surgeons and Hepatologists



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To schedule an appointment or request a consultation to discuss your child's liver condition, call **412-692-6110** and select **option 1**.

Visit chp.edu/livertransplant for more information.