

# Talking to Your Doctor About Lung Transplant



If you have a chronic lung disease, it's important to know all your treatment options. A lung transplant can be a life-saving treatment — and at times, it may be your only available treatment option.

It's never too early to talk to your doctor about being referred for a lung transplant evaluation. If you're referred for an evaluation early, we have more time to discuss your needs, review your medical history, and maximize your chances for a successful lung transplant and optimal outcome.

## The Lung Transplant Evaluation

You may qualify for a lung transplant evaluation if you have a chronic lung disease. Examples of chronic lung diseases include:

- COPD and emphysema.
- Pulmonary fibrosis.
- Primary pulmonary hypertension.
- Cystic fibrosis.
- Scleroderma lung disease.

Many chronic lung diseases progress despite medication and other therapies. Early referral for lung transplant evaluation allows planning for the future before you are too sick for transplant to be performed successfully.

## Understanding the Evaluation Process and Requirements

The transplant evaluation will help our team determine if a lung transplant is the most suitable treatment option for you.

**Step One:** Your doctor refers you to UPMC for a lung transplant evaluation. You also have the option of self-referral.

**Step Two:** Our team of experts will review your medical history and insurance benefits.

**Step Three:** If you meet the initial requirements, we will schedule you for a lung transplant evaluation at UPMC.

**Step Four:** The UPMC Lung Transplant team will perform a thorough lung transplant evaluation. Our experts will review your medical history and conduct diagnostic tests, blood work, and multiple consultations to see if you qualify for a lung transplant.

We consider every person who is referred to our program. If you are referred for lung transplant and we determine that a lung transplant is not the best treatment option for you, our team of transplant experts will continue to work with you to develop a care plan that fits your needs.

## Contact Us

To speak with a member of our team, call **412-648-6202** or visit **[UPMC.com/LungTransplant](https://www.upmc.com/LungTransplant)**.