The Ed Morse Golf Classic is Right Around the Corner!

Kick off the work week with an exceptional day of fun, at the Ed Morse Golf Classic benefiting Transplant Foundation, Inc. The proceeds of this event benefit critical services provided by the Transplant Foundation. Visit our website at www.transplantfoundation.org/golfclassic or call Amanda Werner at 866.901.3172 for information to join us as a player or sponsor on October 6th!
Transplant Foundation Membership Drive: Join Now

We have been able to rapidly expand our services and programs this past year, thanks to our generous and loyal members. We have launched our mentor program, expanded our education forum locations, and granted financial assistance requests to patients from more transplant centers than ever before. Expansion will continue—we plan to grow into the resource for all matters related to transplant in Florida. The near future holds great promise for the Transplant Foundation, and so we ask you to help us continue to make our vision a reality by renewing your existing memberships or becoming a new member.

As many of you know, we have introduced more membership levels and the benefits that go along with them. With your continued support, we can devote our time to assisting transplant patients in need, educating the public about organ and tissue donation, and funding transplant research.

Every member strengthens Transplant Foundation's work. Please visit our website at www.transplantfoundation.org/membership or contact our Programs Manager, Josh Lentin, at jlentin@transplantfoundation.org for more information.

Committee Members Needed!

We'd love to hear your input. As we gear up for our upcoming Miracle Walk/Run and Emerald Night Gala, we are looking for fresh faces to join our event committees! As a committee member, you will be responsible for recruiting new participants and sponsors, fundraising, and guiding the direction of the event. If you’d like to be a part of these exciting events, please email Events and Volunteer Manager, Amanda Werner, at awerner@transplantfoundation.org.
First Successful Volunteer Orientation

The Transplant Foundation Volunteer Orientation launch on August 6th was a great success! Our Events and Volunteer Manager, Amanda Werner, taught seven new volunteers more about Transplant Foundation, transplantation, organ and tissue donation, and volunteer opportunities before enjoying lunch and refreshments provided by Evos. They were enthusiastic about beginning their journeys as Transplant Foundation volunteers. On the volunteer feedback form, when asked, "What made you the most excited about volunteering at Transplant Foundation?", one volunteer responded, "the endless possibilities." Another volunteer responded, "I am excited about being part of an organization that changes lives." The volunteers plan on getting involved through special events, office volunteering and through community outreach.

Transplant Foundation is proud to say that each individual that participated at the orientation is now trained and ready to volunteer, armed with knowledge and a passion for serving the community.

For more information regarding our Volunteer Program or to sign up for the next Volunteer Orientation, email Amanda Werner at awerner@transplantfoundation.org or call 866.901.3172.
Featured News Article
What's New in the World of Transplant?

FDA Approves Donor Lung Preservation Device that may Result in more Lung Transplants

This week, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the XVIVO Perfusion System (XPS) with STEEN Solution, a device for preserving donated lungs that do not initially meet the standard criteria for lung transplantation but may be transplantable if there is more time to observe and evaluate the organ’s function to determine whether the lung is viable for transplantation.

Approximately one in five donated lungs meets the standard criteria for a donor lung and is transplanted into a recipient. In 2012, 1,754 lung transplants were performed in the United States and at the end of that year, 1,616 potential recipients remained on the waiting list.

“This innovative device addresses a critical public health need,” said Christy Foreman, director of the Office of Device Evaluation at the FDA’s Center for Devices and Radiological Health. “With this approval, there may be more lungs available for transplant, which could allow more people with the end stage lung disease who have exhausted all other treatment options to be able to receive a lung transplant.”

If additional time is needed to determine if a donated lung meets the standard criteria for lung transplantation, the XPS can be used to warm the donor lungs to near normal body temperature and continuously flush the lung tissue with a sterile fluid solution called STEEN Solution, which preserves the lungs and removes the waste products.

Donor lungs can stay in the machine for up to four hours; during this time the transplant team can examine the lungs and evaluate their function. If after further evaluation the lungs meet certain functionality criteria, and pass the transplant surgeon examination, they are transplanted into a recipient.

(This article is a summary of a press release published by the following website: http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm409488.htm)
August Means Back to School

Television commercials featuring school supplies and major sales on children’s clothing and uniforms can only mean one thing for your child, school is back in session. But for children returning to school after transplant this is a major milestone in their recovery.

According to the website, BeTheMatch.org, school helps children get back into a normal routine and provides a sense of belonging. Your child may be eager to get back to school. There are things you can do and resources you can use to help with this transition. Most importantly, know your child's educational rights. Your child has a legal right to their education, and if your child’s medical condition requires special accommodations he or she may be entitled to special education services through Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Ask your transplant center social worker for help getting any required documents.

It is also critically important to meet with your child's teacher and other school staff before he or she returns to school to help ease the transition for you and your child. This will allow you to explain your child's medical condition and work out any special accommodations that may be necessary. Good communication between you, your child's doctor and the school will help with the transition back to school.

To plan for the first day back at school, arrange for the child life specialist or nurse from your transplant center to visit the class before your child's return to talk about the transplant and answer any questions. If you don't live close to your transplant center, ask if the school nurse can visit the classroom before your child's return. Older children may also prefer to answer questions themselves. In this case, have the nurse or specialist help your child plan how to answer questions.

Transplant Foundation can help you connect with the appropriate resources to find out more information. Visit our website at www.transplantfoundation.org today and find out how.

(This article is a summary of an article published by the following website: http://bethematch.org/For-Patients-and-Families/Children-and-transplant/Returning-home-after-transplant/Returning-to-school)
Healthy Living: Exercise After an Organ Transplant

After recovering from transplant surgery, many people want to begin exercising, but worry about damaging their new organ. Although it may seem risky, you are less fragile than you think. Physical activity is usually safe for anyone who gets an organ transplant. In fact, it's often the key to staying healthy. Regular exercise lowers blood pressure, helps your heart, lowers your weight, and even helps you sleep and relax. According to Richard Perez, MD, PhD, the director of the Transplant Center at the University of California Medical Center at Davis, recovery from transplant surgery doesn't usually take much longer than recovery from other types of surgery. Healing may be slowed due to the drugs you need to prevent organ rejection though.

Most people will feel more energized after their surgery, they will even have more capacity for exercise, explains Perez.

5 Tips on Exercise After an Organ Transplant

1. Check with your doctor before starting a physical fitness plan.
2. Be cautious when swimming. Public pools and swimming holes may have bacteria that could be dangerous.
3. Set realistic goals. Start slow and work up gradually.
4. Don't push yourself. Listen to your body. If you're in pain or really worn out after exercise, you've done too much.
5. Get advice from an expert. Personal trainers may be pricey at times, but can be worth the investment.

(This article is a summary of an article published on the following website: http://www.webmd.com/diabetes/life-after-transplant-safe-activities-exercise)
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Inaugural Jacksonville Education Forum

Onward,

Transplant Foundation, Inc. Staff