



For more  
information about  
Intestine Transplant  
please contact:

# Intestine Transplant Program

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## How long is the stay in hospital?

You can expect to be in hospital for 1-2 months following surgery. The focus of your care will be healing from surgery, and monitoring for infection and rejection.

After discharge from the hospital you will have to stay in the Greater Toronto Area for an additional 2-4 months for a careful follow up by your team.



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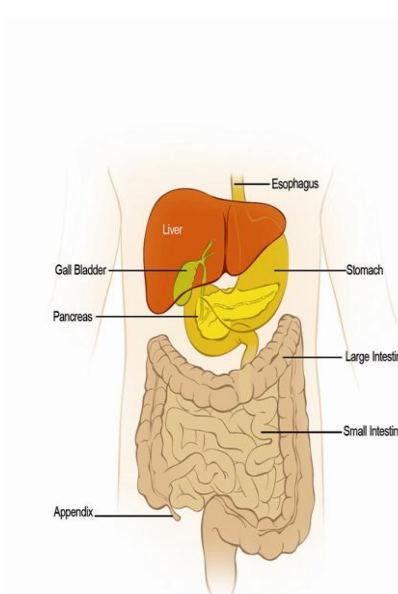
## What is an Intestine Transplant?

An Intestine Transplant is the removal of damaged or diseased intestine from an individual and replacing it with a donated healthy intestine.

There are three different types of Intestine Transplant:

- Intestine alone
- Combined Intestine & Liver
- Multivisceral (stomach, intestine, liver and pancreas)

Your transplant team will discuss the best option for you.



*Our team works closely with individuals, families, and the community to promote optimal health and quality of life for patients through all phases of transplantation*

## What are the benefits of Intestine Transplant?

A successful transplant can save your life. Ideally you will eventually not need TPN, your diet will be less restricted and you will not have fluid restrictions. A functioning healthy bowel can provide an overall increase in energy and general health. If you also need a liver, a transplant can save your life and correct your liver disease.

## Who needs an Intestine Transplant?

Individuals that have a severe gastrointestinal disorder that will not improve without transplantation and have; limited vascular access, severe liver disease, life threatening blood infections or very poor quality of life. Common conditions include: short gut syndrome, severe crohn's disease and chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction disorder. You must be highly motivated and dedicated to the accompanying life style changes that will follow transplant.

## What are the risks of a Intestine Transplant?

Intestine Transplant carries significant risks and is offered to carefully selected patients. Possible complications include infection and drug related side effects. Rejection is also a risk and occurs when your immune system recognizes the new organ as a foreign body.

People with transplants must be on lifelong immunosuppressive medications.

## Where does my transplant come from?

Transplant is made possible by the generous gift of a deceased (non-living) person's family. After a person dies the family may choose to donate organs to save the life of many others.

## How long will I have to wait for transplant?

Waiting time for transplantation varies based on the number of available donors and number of people on the waiting list. There are many factors to take into consideration to find a suitable match.

## How long is the surgery?

The surgery for this type of transplant is quite extensive and takes approximately 8-12 hours.