Considering a kidney transplant?

Kidney transplant is considered one of the most effective treatments for end stage renal disease (ESRD) and may offer many benefits including a higher quality of life and better health outcomes. It is still a complex surgery with potential risks, so it’s important to learn all you can. Your social worker and insurance coordinator are here to help you through the process.

5 things to know:

- **Kidney transplant is a treatment—not a cure.** Although most transplants are successful and last for many years, how long they last can vary. Some people will need more than one kidney transplant during their lifetime.

- **There are 2 types of kidney donors.** An ideal match is from a living donor. You can also find a good match if placed on a donor waiting list to receive your transplant from a deceased donor.

- **Know your insurance coverage options.** You will likely be encouraged to enroll in Medicare in preparation for a transplant. Average transplant waiting time is 3-5 years—so before making any insurance changes, talk to your insurance coordinator about timing and your coverage.

- **Your transplant center is your choice.** In addition to your doctor’s referral, your insurance coordinator may be a resource to help you make an informed decision.

- **Your health is your key to success.** Before surgery, you’ll need to pass a physical. Your doctor will also screen for any medical conditions that could impact your recovery.

**MAKE A TRANSPLANT PLAN**
From understanding transplant-related costs to insurance coverage options, connecting with your social worker is your first step in making a plan.

**Have health insurance coverage other than Medicare?**
Talk to your insurance coordinator today to discuss your insurance options and what may work best for you.