

**Maine Medical Center
Maine Transplant Program
Policies and Procedures
Post-Operative Kidney Transplant Ultrasound Policy**

Purpose

To define the criteria for obtaining a post-operative kidney transplant ultrasound prior to patient discharge.

Policy

It is the policy of the Maine Transplant Program to provide the best care possible to our patients who receive kidney transplants. It has been determined that a timely transplant ultrasound can identify potential threats to the transplanted kidney, allowing the appropriate intervention to be made and optimizing kidney viability.

Procedures

The need for subsequent Kidney transplant Ultrasound evaluation will be determined by the transplant care team including but not limited to below clinical scenarios.

1. All recipients who experience delayed graft function (defined by one these three criteria: less than 40 ml urine within 24 hours; less than 25% drop in creatinine or receiving hemodialysis therapy within one week of transplant), must have a transplant ultrasound on post-operative day +1.
2. All recipients who experience a significant reduction in hematocrit over 24 hours that is not explained by volume overload issues.
3. All recipients who undergo multiple transplant arterial anastomoses during transplant surgery must have a transplant ultrasound by the day before discharge, unless one or more of the prior criteria have been met and an ultrasound has already been performed.
4. All recipients receiving postoperative anticoagulation must have a transplant ultrasound by the day before discharge, unless one or more of the prior criteria have been met and an ultrasound has already been performed.

Original Date: 10/14/14

Revised Dates: 8/10/17, 6/30/20

This policy was reviewed and approved at QAPI on 7/24/20

Policy Champion: Juan Palma-Vargas, MD – Director, Living Donation