Our Program

With more than 8,000 organ transplants performed, UF Health has the experience and expertise to provide pediatric and adult patients with the best transplant experience possible.

UF Health’s transplant program uses a coordinated team approach to care, with 100+ staff members dedicated to assisting our patients and their families through every phase of the transplant journey — from pre-transplant to lifelong post-transplant care. These team members include physicians, surgeons, nurses, financial coordinators, donor coordinators, administrative support staff, social workers, physical and respiratory therapists, and psychologists.

Organ types we transplant include:

**Adult:**
- Heart
- Kidney
- Liver
- Lung
- Pancreas

**Pediatric:**
- Heart/Heart-Lung
- Kidney
- Lung

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**Firsts in Florida**

*UF Health surgeons have been the first in Florida to perform the following:*

- **1966:** Deceased donor kidney transplant
- **1969:** Living kidney donor transplant
- **1986:** Pediatric heart transplant
- **1993:** Infant heart transplant
- **1994:** Pediatric heart-kidney transplant
- **1995:** Pancreas transplant
- **1996:** Pediatric lung transplant
- **1999:** Pediatric heart-lung transplant
- **2002:** Double-lung transplant in youngest infant
- **2020:** Double-lung transplant in survivor of COVID-19
- **2020:** Triple-organ transplant of its kind (heart, liver and kidney)
Facts & Figures

Heart Transplant

- In 2020, U.S. News & World Report ranked the UF Health Shands Children's Hospital pediatric cardiology and heart surgery program among the top 15 in the United States, and top in Florida for the fifth consecutive year.
- In 2006, UF Health was the first program in Florida to implant a Berlin Heart® ventricular assist device.
- Since 1985, the heart transplant team has performed 1,000+ adult and pediatric heart transplants.

Kidney Transplant

- UF Health is the top program in Florida for one-year patient survival and graft survival for recipients of living and deceased donor transplants, according to the January 2021 SRTR report.
- According to the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, or OPTN, our team has performed 5,100+ deceased and living donor kidney since 1966. We have also performed 500+ pediatric kidney transplants.
- Since 1995, our surgeons have performed 270+ adult kidney-pancreas transplants.

Liver Transplant

- As one of the nation’s top-performing abdominal transplant programs, over half of our patients wait less than 30 days to receive a liver transplant. Based upon internal data reported to SRTR between 4/1/2020 to 3/31/2021.
- UF College of Medicine surgeons performed their first liver transplant in 1990.
- As of March 2021, the liver transplant team has performed 2,000 liver transplants.

Lung Transplant

- UF Health leads the nation in quality outcomes for lung transplant. Our program continues to grow in volume, decreased wait times and improved patient survival, according to the January 2021 SRTR report.
- Since 1994, UF Health has performed 1,000+ adult and pediatric lung transplants and, in 2020, performed a record 93 lung transplants in Florida.
- UF Health offers XVIVO lung perfusion, an innovative technology used to increase the pool of available donor lungs. This technique helps improve the viability of a donated lung, or donated lungs, shortening the time for a transplant and reducing the number of patient deaths while on the waitlist.