

Indications for Heart Transplant Evaluation

1. CHF New York Heart Association (NYHA)* Class III-IV refractory to maximum medical and surgical therapy.
2. Angina refractory to maximum medical and surgical therapy
3. Restrictive and constrictive cardiomyopathy refractory to maximal medical and surgical therapy
4. HCM with severe symptoms and refractory to medical and surgical treatment
5. Refractory VT to medical and surgical therapy
6. Myocarditis refractory to medical and surgical therapy
7. VAD-dependent patients who meet criteria for transplantation
8. Rejection/cardiac allograft failure and transplant vasculopathy
9. Age <70 year old
10. Congenital heart disease with known anatomy and reversible pulmonary hypertension

* New York Heart Association Functional Classification

- I. No symptoms and no limitation in ordinary physical activity
- II. Mild symptoms and slight limitation during ordinary activity. Comfortable at rest.
- III. Marked limitation in activity due to symptoms, even during less-than-ordinary activity. Comfortable only at rest.
- IV. Severe limitations. Experiences symptoms even while at rest.

Symptoms: fatigue, dyspnea, palpitations or angina

Contraindications for Heart Transplantation

Absolute:

1. Age >70 years old and/or limited life expectancy and/or quality of life
2. Active infections (VAD line infections are excluded)
3. Systemic diseases (e.g. amyloidosis, connective tissue disease, sarcoidosis with end-organ dysfunction)
4. Hepatitis B, C, HIV and syphilis
5. Multisystem organ failure, not of cardiac origin and irreversible
6. Irreversible pulmonary hypertension with TPG>15 and PVR >5 not responding to vasodilatory challenge (patients with PVR <3 need repeat right heart cath every 6 months; patients with PVR=3-5 will require repeat right heart cath every 3 months)
7. Acute PE (for 6 months)
8. Severe parenchymatous lung disease with FEV1<40% and DLCO<40%
9. Diabetes Mellitus with severe end-organ involvement
10. Active malignancy
11. Severe and irreversible liver dysfunction (LFT's >3 x normal), unrelated to cardiac dysfunction
12. Severe renal dysfunction (creatinine clearance <40 cc)
13. Severe PVD or carotid disease not amenable to PCI or surgery before transplantation
14. Acute PUD or diverticulitis
15. Recent CVA or intracranial bleed
16. Severe obesity BMI >35
17. Severe osteoporosis
18. Noncompliance with medical therapy
19. Substance abuse: alcohol, tobacco, drugs (needs drug-free period of 6 months with random unannounced testing)
20. Severe personality disorder (mandatory assessment by clinical psychologist prior to consideration for transplant)

Relative:

1. Previous history of thoracic radiation
2. Lack of Psychosocial support