

# Preface

Kidney transplantation improves the length and quality of life for many patients with end-stage renal disease. Successful transplantation is ensured by specialists trained to recognize and manage both the immediate pre- and post-transplant issues and the initial decisions regarding immunosuppression. Of course, early expert medical and surgical care is paramount to the successes of transplantation.

Immediately after the transplant, particularly trained specialists at the medical center manage the post-transplant care. However, after discharge from the transplant center, long-term care of the transplant recipient often falls on the shoulders of the community nephrologist or the general internist, who may or may not be experienced with transplant care. This guide to the care of the kidney transplant recipient aims to provide practical guidelines for management of the post-transplant recipient and is targeted at community nephrologists and general internists who care for the patient with a kidney transplant.

Although this book outlines many aspects of transplant specialty care, it is not intended to replace textbooks directed at transplant physicians. The aim is to provide practical advice for the continuation of long-term care of the patient after they leave the transplant center. Our ultimate goal is to provide informed, consistent, and multidisciplinary care guidelines for recipients of kidney transplants. We hope that this text contributes to that process.

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Kidney Transplantation: A Guide to the Care of Kidney  
Transplant Recipients

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