

Referring to the Duke Lung and Heart-Lung Transplant Program

Thank you for your interest in referring your patient to the Duke Lung Transplant Program. Please review the contraindications below before making a referral, and feel free to contact us if you are unsure about a referral.

Contraindications

Lung transplantation is not an option for patients who:

- Have used tobacco **at all** within the past six months
- Have advanced, untreated dysfunction in other organ systems—although select patients may be candidates for multi-organ transplant
- Have had a malignancy in the past two years, with the exception of skin cancers, bronchoalveolar carcinoma, and some early-stage lung cancers
- Have an active, non-curable infection (such as hepatitis or HIV) outside the lungs
- Weigh more than 130 percent of their ideal body weight (Patients must work with diet and exercise to meet this goal prior to transplant.)
- Do not have an adequate social-support system

Referral Guidelines*

- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease**—FEV1 < 30% and/or DLCO < 30%; associated pulmonary hypertension; BODE index ≥ 5 OR history of exacerbations with hypercarbia
- **Cystic fibrosis and bronchiectasis**—FEV1 < 30% or rapid decline in FEV1; ICU stay due to exacerbation; increasing frequency of exacerbations; refractory or recurrent pneumothorax; recurrent hemoptysis; hypercarbia; oxygen dependence OR associated pulmonary hypertension
- **Pulmonary fibrosis (PF)**—Histological or radiographic evidence of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis or nonspecific pulmonary fibrosis (Note: Due to the high risk of death on the waiting list, patients diagnosed with PF without contraindications for transplant may be referred regardless of current pulmonary function.)
- **Pulmonary arterial hypertension**—NYHA Class III or IV disease on medical therapy; rapidly progressive disease
- **Sarcoidosis**—NYHA Class III or IV disease; hypoxia at rest; associated pulmonary hypertension

**Based on International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation 2006 Guidelines (JHLT 25:745-55, 2006). Individual decisions are made for each patient.*

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1-888-ASK-DUKE for patients

1-800-MED-DUKE for providers