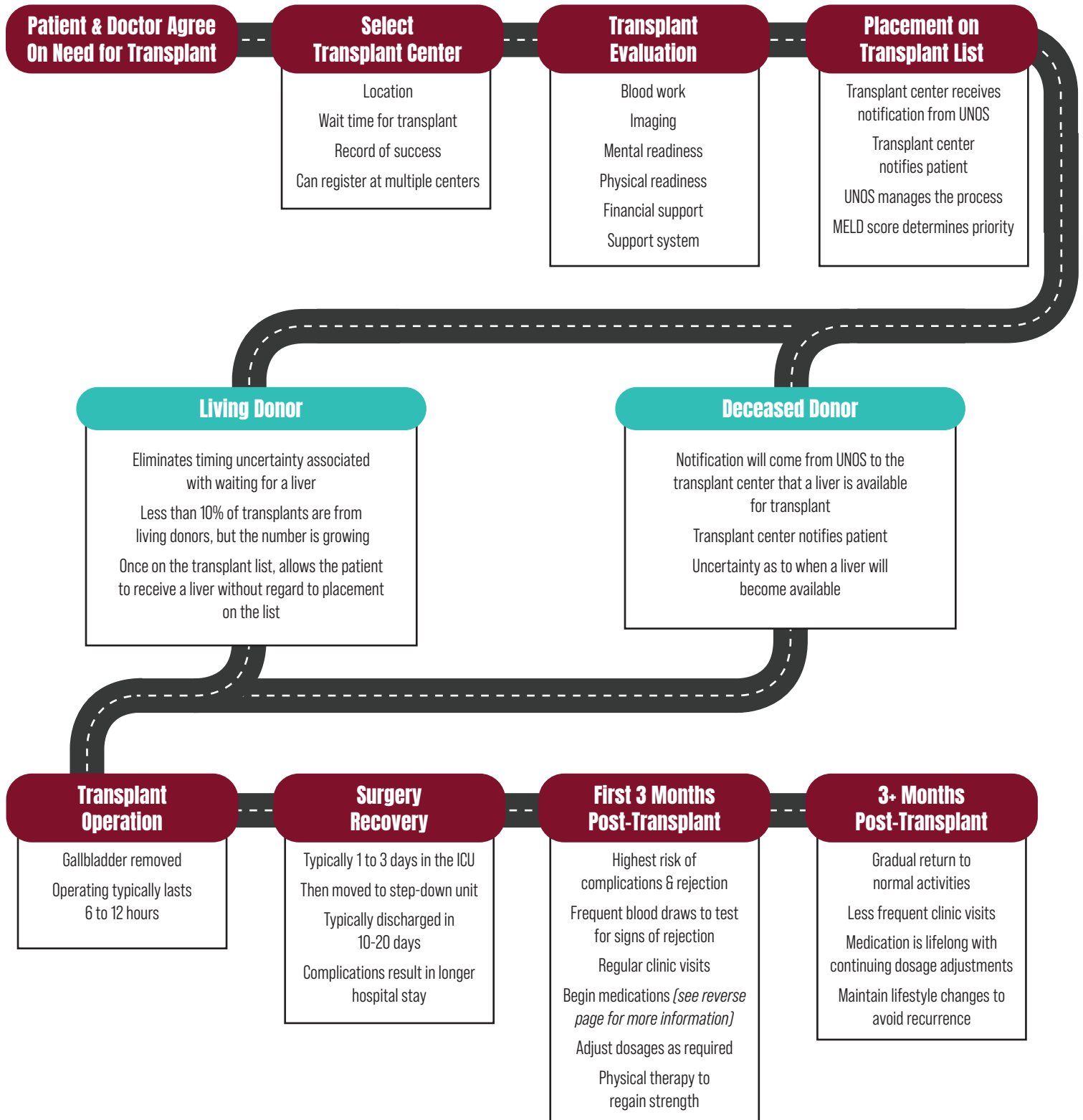


LIVER TRANSPLANT ROADMAP

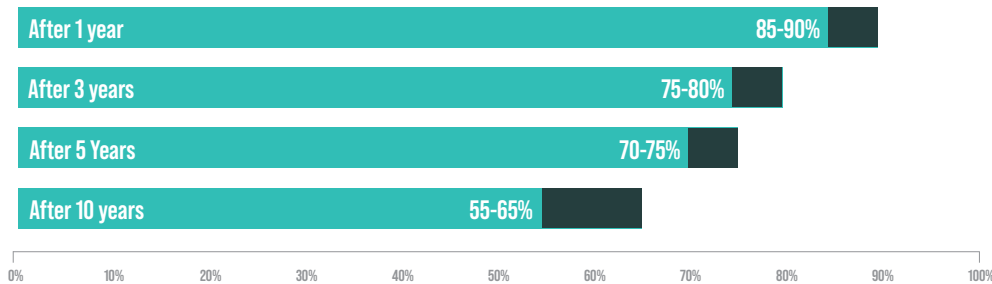


LIVER TRANSPLANT ROADMAP

MOST COMMONLY USED POST-TRANSPLANT MEDICATIONS

Medication	Description	Duration of Use After Transplant
Prednisone	Prevent rejection; used in combination with other rejection medications	Short duration
Cellcept (Myfortic)	Prevent rejection; used in combination with other rejection medications	Short duration or lifelong
Tacrolimus (Prograf, Envarus, Astagraf)	Prevent rejection; most commonly used anti-rejection drug	Lifelong
Cyclosporine (Neoral, Gengraf)	Prevent rejection; alternative to tacrolimus	Short duration or lifelong
Sirolimus (Rapamune)	Prevent rejection; alternative to tacrolimus	Lifelong
Everlimus	Prevent rejection; alternative to tacrolimus	Lifelong
Nystatin/Fluconazole	Prevent infection	Short duration
Bactrim	Prevent infection	Short duration
Valcyte	Prevent CMV or herpes	Short duration
Magnesium oxide	Prevent low magnesium	Could be lifelong

TRANSPLANT SURVIVAL RATES



ORGAN REJECTION

- Less than 30% of patients experience some form of rejection
- Can be mild and treatable with medication adjustments
- Chronic rejection may require a new transplant; happens about 5-7% of the time in the first year and 10-20% long-term

WHAT IS UNOS?

- UNOS is the United Network for Organ Sharing
- UNOS manages the National Transplant Waiting List
- It operates the computer system that matches donor organs with waiting recipients across the country
- It is responsible for ensuring that organs are donated fairly and efficiently, based on medical need and location

MELD SCORE

MELD is the acronym for Model for End-Stage Liver Disease. The score is calculated using five blood factors:

- **Bilirubin** – Indicates liver's ability to remove bile.
- **INR (International Normalized Ratio)** – Measures blood clotting ability.
- **Creatinine** – Reflects kidney function.
- **Sodium** – Helps identify risk of complications like fluid buildup.
- **Albumin** – Measures liver health by measuring a protein produced by the liver

MELD scores run from 6 (healthy) to 40. The median MELD score of patients receiving a transplant is 31 (as of May 2025). The MELD score determines the priority for receiving a liver for transplant. "Exception points" are granted to those with specified conditions, such as Hepatocellular Carcinoma, which moves patients higher on the priority list.

HOW ARE ORGANS ALLOCATED?

Organs are offered to the sickest compatible patients within a defined distance from the hospital of the donor

- First 150 miles
 - Than 250 and finally 500 miles
- Compatibility determined
- Blood type
 - Body size
 - Urgency status (usually MELD score)

