

Renal Transplantation

The kidney is an important organ that regulates our body functions and removes metabolic waste (harmful leftover substances, such as nitrogen, food additives etc that must be excreted).

The kidney becomes ineffective when renal disease reaches a very advanced stage, making it vital for the sufferer to undergo peritoneal dialysis, or renal transplantation.

Dialysis is a lengthy and expensive treatment which does not cure kidney failure, but can prolong the patient's life by removing the metabolic wastes, toxins, and excessive water in his or her body.

Renal transplantation is another option, but the patient would need a kidney which may be obtained from a deceased person, or a live donor. However, the patient's and donor's blood must be compatible. Equally important is the general health of both the patient and the live donor.

The post-surgery survival rate of kidney-transplant patients is as high as 80 per cent, although some patients die after one year.