

What Happens During a Living-Donor Liver Transplant



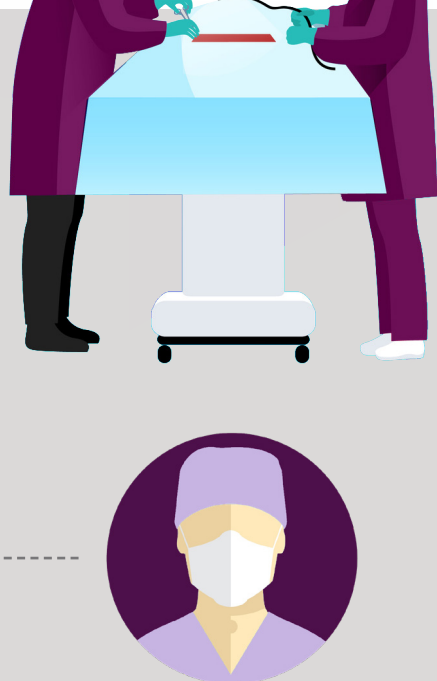
During a living-donor liver transplant, a portion of the liver from a healthy donor is removed and transplanted into the recipient.

The potential donor is carefully evaluated before the surgery to determine if he or she can tolerate the operation, and if the one in need will benefit from the donor liver. The evaluation includes:

- Physical and psychological exams for potential donors
- Blood work
- Additional tests

Liver Transplant Process

Here's what to expect:

1	The surgeon will remove 25% to 65% of the donor's liver.	
2	The recipient's unhealthy liver will be replaced with a portion of the donor's healthy liver.	
3	The donor's liver regenerates. The recipient's liver regenerates.	 <p>The coordinator or surgeon will be able to provide more details about a candidate's specific surgery.</p>

The need for living-liver donors is a big one. 30 million Americans have some form of liver disease.



 = 1 million people

Recovery for Living-Donor Liver Transplant

The liver is one of the few organs that can regenerate. It usually takes about eight to ten weeks for it to grow back to near full size. The full recovery of the donor generally takes a few months before he or she is back to his or her previous level of health. **However, it's important to note that recovery times after living-donor liver transplants may vary.**