

# Kidney paired donation



# Kidney paired donation

You want to donate a kidney to a relative or someone you know, but medical tests show that the kidney is incompatible.

Imagine a second donor/patient pair in the same situation.

By swapping the donors in these two incompatible pairs, two compatible kidney transplants are made possible.

## **Purpose of the Swiss KPD programme**

- The Swiss KPD programme helps incompatible living donors find a compatible kidney for their closed one.
- The Swiss KPD programme increases the chances of a patient finding a matched living donor, and therefore a matched kidney as a living donation.
- For some hyperimmunized patients, the Swiss KPD programme may provide their only opportunity for transplantation.
- By entering all incompatible pairs in a national pool, this programme allows more matched combinations to help more patients.

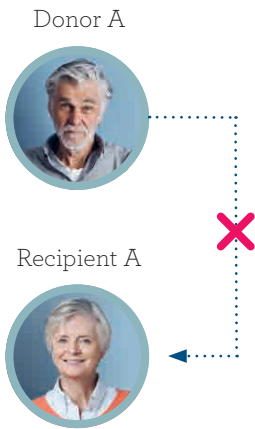
## **Requirements for all participants in the Swiss KPD programme**

- Complete medical and psychological evaluation.
- Registration and signed agreement to participate in the Swiss KPD programme.
- Repeating medical tests after a potential matched donor/recipient pair is found.
- Surgeries at the local transplant centre where the consultations took place.
- If no matched pair is found at that point: updated medical tests each year to continue participating in the Swiss KPD programme.

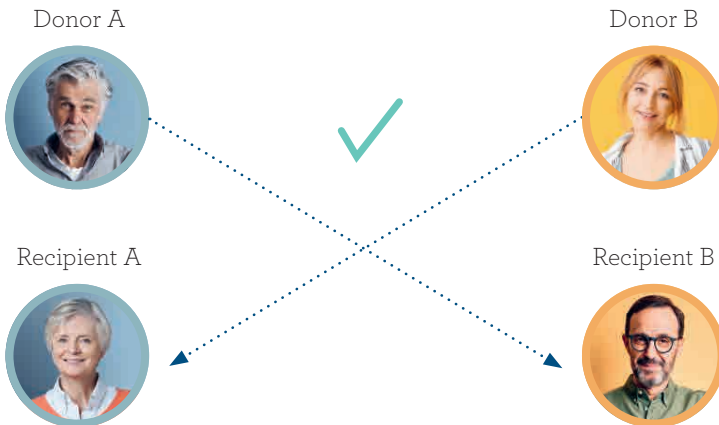
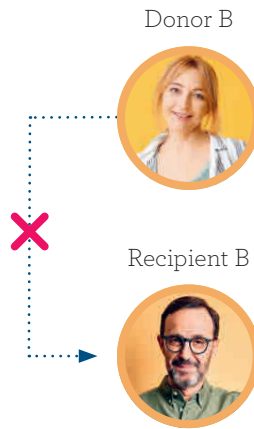
# Two incompatible pairs

Tests show that a paired donation is possible.

Incompatible pair A

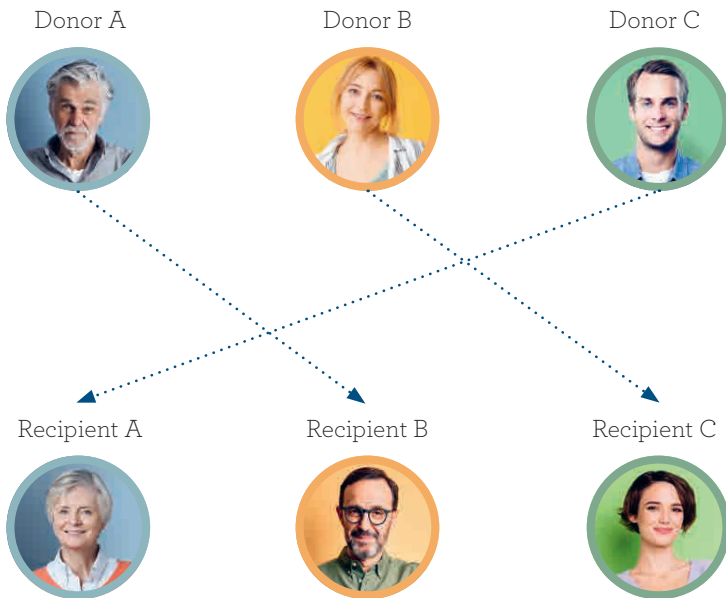


Incompatible pair B



# Three or more incompatible pairs

Paired donations allow for a closed chain.

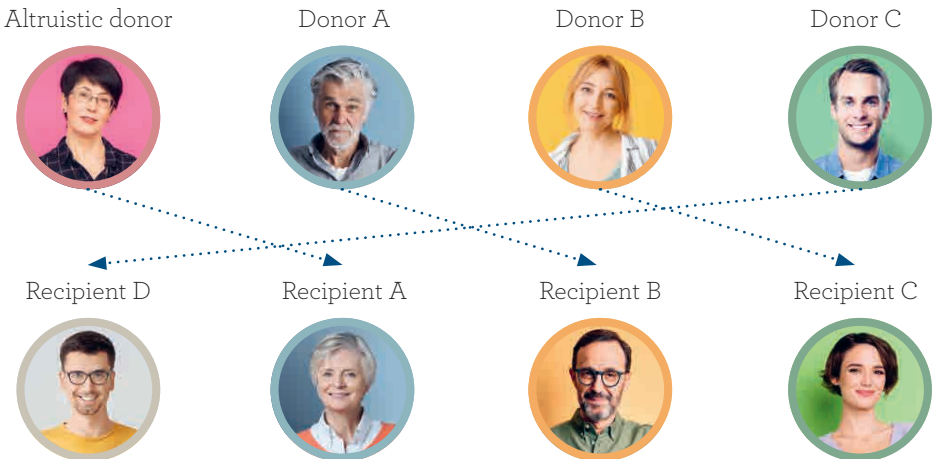


# Altruistic donation

**An altruistic donor is someone who donates their kidney to a person they do not know.**  
Their kidney is initially allocated to the most suitable patient on the national waiting list.



Then this pair is included in the next run with all the other incompatible pairs, which increases the chances of a match and allows more transplants to be performed.



# Benefits of joining the Swiss kidney paired donation (KPD) programme

## For the patient

- On average, living donors' kidneys last longer than kidneys from deceased donors.
- May stay less time on dialysis and have shorter wait for transplantation.
- May undergo pre-emptive transplantation even before dialysis treatment.
- May find a matched donor faster than by waiting for a deceased donor.

## For the donor

- Opportunity to help more than one patient in need of a kidney transplant by:
- Donating their kidney directly to a patient they do not know;
  - Allowing their intended recipient to receive a kidney from an unknown donor who is also part of an incompatible pair.

## Swisstransplant

Swiss National Foundation for organ donation and transplantation

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## Further information



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**HUG** Hôpitaux  
Universitaires  
Genève

 **INSELSPITAL**  
UNIVERSITÄTSSPITAL BERN  
HÔPITAL UNIVERSITAIRE DE BERNE

 **H** Kantonsspital  
St.Gallen

**CHUV** Centre hospitalier  
universitaire vaudois