

# Lung Transplantation for COVID-19

## Practical tips for referring providers

### Who to refer?

Patients with severe, irreversible, single organ (lung) failure, who would otherwise be a candidate based on local transplant center protocols.

Patients should be alert, able to participate in transplant discussions and decisions, and have strong rehabilitation potential.

### Why?

Lung transplantation is a potentially lifesaving therapy for patients with:

- Irreversible, fibrotic ARDS
- Severe, chronic fibrotic lung disease from COVID-19

### When should you refer?

- At least 4-6 weeks after onset of severe lung injury and development of fibrotic changes
- After allowing sufficient time for lung recovery
- After the patient tests negative for SARS-CoV-2

### How to refer?

Call transplant centers early with the following information:

- Patient age
- Duration of illness
- BMI/nutrition status
- Degree and duration of mechanical support (eg, ventilation, ECMO)
- Status of comorbidities
- Rehab potential
- Success of awakening trials
- Family/social support
- Insurance information