

Mayo Clinic Minute: Breaking barriers for patients who need kidney transplants

Video	Audio
	A multidisciplinary team of Mayo Clinic transplant surgeons, nephrologists, dietitians and endocrinologists is helping remove obesity as a barrier to kidney transplantation.
Aleksandra Kukla, M.D. Nephrology Mayo Clinic	"Our transplant metabolic bariatric program is very unique because it does have a team approach and it's also centered on the patient."
	Dr. Aleksandra Kukla, a Mayo Clinic nephrologist, helped create the program, which can sometimes include bariatric surgery, the most effective and durable weight loss method.
	"All the team members are invested in getting the patient to the transplant. So with every follow-up visit, we not only address the weight loss and nutritional deficiencies, but we also look at the patient as a potential kidney transplant candidate."
	Some patients are able to be listed for kidney transplant just two months after bariatric surgery. But for many, the program is offering them something they may not have had before: hope, that they can receive a kidney transplant in the future.
	"Many of our patients have been previously rejected from the other transplant centers. So they come to us for help and for hope."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.