

# 20 years of transplantation



## BAYLOR LIVER AND KIDNEY TRANSPLANT PROGRAM CELEBRATES TWO DECADES OF SUCCESS

This new year, the staff at the Liver and Kidney Transplant Program at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas had thousands of reasons to celebrate. Almost four thousand, in fact.

As the program celebrated its 20th anniversary in January, surgeons and physicians on the medical staff had performed nearly 3,700 liver or kidney transplants, one of a few hospitals in the nation to reach this milestone.

The liver and kidney transplant program at Baylor was established in 1984 under the direction of Goran Klintmalm, M.D., Ph.D. Since its inception at Baylor, more than 6,000 transplants have been performed, including liver, kidney, pancreas, heart and lung, as well as blood and marrow transplants—making it one of the four largest adult multi-specialty transplant centers in the country.

Baylor also has been “first” in a number of areas of transplantation and, as a result of the dedication of the transplant medical staff, has continued to actively pursue new research, including studies on islet cell transplantation for the treatment of type 1 diabetes. And, through Baylor’s transplant research program, physicians have participated in more than 60 research protocols, many of which are now used as standard therapy, and resulted in more than 350 publications in medical journals. In fact, research at Baylor allows many patients to receive medicines three to five years before they are used in other facilities.

Currently, scientists at Baylor are at the leading edge of transplant research as they study ways to minimize organ rejection. By studying transplant recipients whose bodies have developed a tolerance for their new organ—thus avoiding rejection—researchers are looking at ways to replicate this type of success with other patients. Other clinical trials also are being conducted to reduce a patient’s long-term dependence on immunosuppressant medications.

With a ceaseless focus on patients and medical education, the Liver and Kidney Transplant Program at Baylor will continue to grow and advance toward its next 20 years.

## TRANSPLANT FIRSTS AT BAYLOR

Baylor’s achievements in transplantation include several firsts:

1983	First bone marrow transplant in North Texas
1985	First adult liver transplant in Texas
1985	First combined liver/kidney transplant in the southern United States
1988	First matched unrelated donor bone marrow transplant in Texas
1988	First U.S. bridge-to-heart transplantation procedure using the ABIOMED™ assist device
1990	First single-lung transplant in North Texas
1993	First double-lung transplant in North Texas
1997	First successful use of a genetically altered pig liver as a bridge-to-liver transplantation in the world
1999	First split-liver transplant in North Texas
2000	First adult-to-adult living donor liver transplant in North Texas
2002	Baylor’s 2,000th adult liver transplant performed