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A Guide to Baylor All Saints Medical Centers

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Transplant recipients Darla Griffin and Joe Land celebrate the one-year anniversary of their procedures.

Transplant: One Year Later

BY SHAWN KRAMER

On July 9, 2002, Joseph Land received *the* call. The call he had been waiting for. A liver was available. Land told his wife, Karen, "Honey, we're going to [Baylor] All Saints."

On July 10, 2002, Baylor All Saints Medical Center at Fort Worth performed Tarrant County's first liver transplant on Mr. Land. Modeled after the highly renowned Baylor University Medical Center (Baylor Dallas) transplant program, Baylor All Saints offers complete liver and kidney transplantation services including evaluation, living kidney donation program or dietary guidelines, transplant surgery, post-operative and long-term follow-up care, support groups, housing coordination and financial services. Now the same level of quality and expertise developed at Baylor Dallas over nearly 20 years is available right here at Baylor All Saints.

Baylor Dallas and Baylor All Saints' programs comprise the Baylor Regional Transplant Institute where patient care, experience and research are the hallmarks of the transplant centers. Joe Land, a physician's assistant from Denton, Texas, comments, "The care at Baylor All Saints enlightened me physically and spiritually. There was not one

Saving Organs (and Lives)

Without the generous gifts from organ and tissue donors and their families, these lifesaving stories would not be possible. Just one organ and tissue donor can provide seven lifesaving organs and life-enhancing tissues for another 50 individuals.

Through organizations, such as LifeGift Organ Donation Center, you can obtain a donor card to sign and carry with you. Also, be sure to inform your family of your choice today. Visit LifeGift.org for more information or call 1-800-633-6562.

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'weak link' at Baylor All Saints. How many stars do you put on something to say it was a perfect experience?"

Darla Griffin was the second liver transplant recipient at Baylor All Saints on September 22, 2002. "I can't tell you when or if I've ever met so many compassionate people in one place as I did at Baylor All Saints. They are a great group of people. I love them all," Griffin shares.

The patient and family are considered a single unit of care. Because a well-informed patient is better equipped to make decisions regarding treatment options, patients and family members begin a comprehensive education process upon referral. When Griffin describes her transplant experience, she uses the term *we* rather than *I* "because it has affected my entire family. I don't know how you could do it without your support team."

From the program's start in July 2002, the transplant surgeons and specialized physicians on the medical staff at Baylor All Saints have performed 24 liver transplants and 33 kidney transplants*. Additional members of the transplant team include: pre- and post-transplant nurse coordinators, research nurses, advanced nurse practitioners, registered dietitians, pharmacists, chaplains, financial counselors and social workers. "Throughout the facility, the staff has performed superbly. It's an honor to be affiliated with a staff who works as well together as this one does and who is so dedicated and devoted to their patients," comments Marlon Levy, M.D., who serves on the medical staff at Baylor All Saints as surgical director of the program. According to Dr. Levy, Baylor All Saints plans to add pancreas transplants to their services before the end of the year.

Currently there are eight people on the liver transplant waiting list and 102 people on the kidney transplant waiting list for Baylor All Saints*. Nationwide, more than 80,000 people are waiting for a life-saving organ transplant, including more than 5,000 people in Texas.

► For more information on the Baylor All Saints liver and kidney transplant program, call 1-800-4BAYLOR (1-800-422-9567).

*as of 6/20/03



Speed of Light

Clearer Pictures with Less Time on the Table

Clearer images, less time on the table and minimal exposure. That's what the new scanning technology available at Baylor All Saints Medical Center offers. GE Medical Systems' newest computed tomography (CT) scan technology, the LightSpeed Ultra, scans four times faster than the typical helical (spiral) CT scanner.

This new scanning technology performs a:

- heart scan in less time than it takes to hold a normal breath
- chest/abdomen/pelvis scan in 16 seconds
- entire body scan in just 26 seconds

The exceptional speed, specific image targeting and variable-speed scanning make the new technology ideal for a number of uses:

- virtual colonoscopy and angiography
- pediatric trauma
- chest/abdomen/pelvis exams
- cardiac, vascular and stroke assessment

"Not only does the LightSpeed Ultra make it feasible to perform new, sophisticated procedures—such as cardiac scoring and CT angiography—as a substitute for invasive procedures, it improves almost all scans by decreasing the effect of patient movement and minimizing the time patients have to be tested," says John Campbell, M.D., chief radiologist on the medical staff at Baylor All Saints.

Optidose is a unique feature of the new system that allows a technician to achieve optimum image quality with a much lower dose of radiation—up to 30 percent less—to patients. Using the system's integrated workstation, technicians can more easily capture complex images, such as volume rendering, vessel analysis and function. —*Shawn Kramer*

► For information on Imaging Services at Baylor All Saints, please call (817) 922-7780. Some evening appointments available.