# Lung Transplantation for COVID-19

## Practical tips for referring providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who to refer?</th>
<th>Why?</th>
<th>When should you refer?</th>
<th>How to refer?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Patients with severe, irreversible, single organ (lung) failure, who would otherwise be a candidate based on local transplant center protocols. | Lung transplantation is a potentially lifesaving therapy for patients with:  
- Irreversible, fibrotic ARDS  
- Severe, chronic fibrotic lung disease from COVID-19 | • 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 | 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 |

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

---

Aslam S; ISHLT. Guidance from the ISHLT regarding the SARS CoV-2 pandemic. Revised February 1, 2021.