

CHAPTER 3  
SECTION 1.6L

## DONOR COSTS

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### I. POLICY

#### A. Donor costs are payable when:

1. Both the donor and recipient are TRICARE beneficiaries.
2. The donor is a TRICARE beneficiary but the recipient is not.
3. The donor is the sponsor and the recipient is the beneficiary. (In such an event, donor costs are paid as a part of the beneficiary and recipient costs.)
4. The donor is neither a beneficiary nor a sponsor, if the recipient is a TRICARE beneficiary. (Again, in such an event, donor costs are paid as a part of the beneficiary and recipient costs.)

B. If the donor is not a beneficiary, TRICARE benefits for donor costs are limited to those directly related to the transplant procedure itself and do not include any medical care costs related to other treatment of the donor, including complications.

C. In most instances, for costs related to isolated kidney transplants, Medicare (not TRICARE) benefits for end-stage renal disease will be applicable. Refer to [Chapter 9, Section 2.2](#). Special policy applies to combined liver-kidney transplantation. Refer to [Chapter 3, Section 1.6E](#).

D. If a TRICARE beneficiary participates as a kidney donor for a Medicare beneficiary, Medicare will pay for expenses in connection with the kidney transplant to include all reasonable preparatory, operation and postoperation recovery expenses associated with the donation.

### II. EXCLUSIONS

#### A. Benefits will not be paid for:

1. Services and supplies provided as a part of or under a scientific or medical study, grant, or research program.

2. **Services and supplies not provided in accordance with accepted professional medical standards; or integral to an unproven procedure.**

3. **Donor transportation costs.**

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