

General Subject Glossary

<http://www.transplantawareness.org/resguide/chap42.htm>

As you learn more about transplantation, your vocabulary will begin to expand rather rapidly. We have noted here a number of the terms frequently used in transplantation. Remember, this is just a sample.

Acute

Having severe symptoms and a short course.

Acute Tubular Necrosis (ATN)

Reversible kidney damage resulting in delayed kidney function after transplant. Among other factors, it may be caused by sub-optimal organ storage before transplantation or medication used to prevent rejection.

Allocation

The system of ensuring that organs and tissues are distributed fairly to patients who are in need.

Allogenic

Refers to genetically different members of the same species. See *transplantation*.

Allograft

An organ that is removed from a donor to be used in another person.

Anemia

A condition characterized by too few red blood cells in the bloodstream, resulting in insufficient oxygen to tissues and organs.

Antibody

A serum protein consisting of soluble molecules that is produced by the body's immune system, they are produced in response to and bind to substances, usually foreign, known as antigens. Antibodies to transplantation, antigens are one of the mediators of graft rejection.

Antibiotic

A drug used to fight bacterial infections.

Antigen

A substance, such as a transplanted organ, that can trigger an immune response. This immune response may be the production of antibodies.

Apheresis

An apheresis donation returns the unwanted portion of blood to the donor. Usually relating to a platelet donation.

Arteriogram

An X-ray of the arteries taken with the aid of a dye, sometimes referred to as angiography.

Ascites

Accumulation of fluid in the stomach.

Aseptic Necrosis

One or both hip joints may suddenly undergo massive deterioration in patients using a high dosage of steroids for a prolonged time. Dietary calcium and/or supplements are recommended for prevention.

