THE OCHSNER MULTI-ORGAN TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE IS A PRESTIGIOUS PROGRAM OF OCHSNER HEALTH SYSTEM, ONE OF THE NATION’S TOP INTEGRATED HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS. WITH NINE HOSPITALS AND MORE THAN 40 HEALTH CENTERS THROUGHOUT LOUISIANA, OCHSNER HEALTH SYSTEM RANKS AMONG THE LEADING HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS IN THE U.S. AND EARN TOP NATIONAL QUALITY AWARDS FOR PATIENT OUTCOMES ACROSS MANY SPECIALTIES, INCLUDING HEART AND CANCER CARE. SINCE ITS FOUNDING IN 1942, OCHSNER HAS EXPANDED EXPONENTIALLY AND NOW CARES FOR MORE THAN 1.4 MILLION PATIENTS EACH YEAR.

The Ochsner Multi-Organ Transplant Institute achieved new quality rankings in 2013, placing us among the top transplant programs in the U.S.

CareChex® recognized us as number one in the nation in liver transplantation and we tied for the most adult liver transplants performed in the U.S. in 2013. CareChex® also recognized us as number two in the nation in kidney transplants in the U.S. in 2013. Our patient survival rates exceed national averages. Overall, our patients are doing better, living longer and experiencing fewer complications.

These are major achievements, indeed. These laudable rankings are the result of decades of dedication by numerous skilled surgeons, physicians, researchers, nurses, social workers, coordinators and other support staff who work year-after-year to constantly improve our comprehensive care. Since 1984, Ochsner’s staff has focused intensely on improving patient outcomes in every possible way. We’ve recruited some of the world’s leading transplant surgeons and created an environment in which they can excel. The rankings achieved confirm that Ochsner’s transplant team has the right people and processes in place to provide high quality care for our patients.

Ochsner’s goal has been to become one of the leading transplant programs in the world. Through our innovation and dedication to excellence, what we have instituted since inception is a true testament to this goal, and we continue to aim high. Organ transplant is among the most challenging medical specialties. Our ability to research new technologies and procedures prepares us to meet the future needs of patients from around the world. As the program continues to grow both regionally and nationally, we remain committed to new research and development opportunities that increase the quality of life for our patients and save more lives.

2013 has been a banner year for Ochsner Multi-Organ Transplant Institute and the patients we serve, and we are pleased to share our progress with you in these pages.

Sincerely,

Dr. George Loss, Jr.
Dr. Nigel Girgrah
1970
First heart transplant in Gulf South Region performed at Ochsner.

1973
First kidney transplant performed at Ochsner.

1975
First liver transplant in Louisiana performed at Ochsner.

1979
Multi-Organ Transplant Institute is established at Ochsner.

1984
First pediatric heart and liver transplant performed in the Gulf South Region at Ochsner.

1985
First double lung and pancreas transplant in Louisiana performed at Ochsner.

1986
First split liver transplant in Louisiana performed at Ochsner.

1987
First liver transplant in Louisiana performed at Ochsner.

1990
Ochsner surgeons perform 500th Heart Transplant, one of only 6 U.S. transplant centers to have achieved this milestone.

1991
First transplant program in Louisiana to perform over 100 transplants in a single year.

1993
First adult living related liver transplant performed at Ochsner.

1994
Ochsner surgeons perform a double lung transplant on youngest person in U.S. history.

1997
First dual organ transplant — kidney/pancreas and heart/lung in Louisiana performed at Ochsner.

2000
First split liver transplant in Louisiana performed at Ochsner.

2003
Ochsner celebrates 500th Liver and 700th Heart transplant.

2008
1 of 11 hospitals in the U.S. to receive HealthGrades® Kidney Transplant Excellence Award™.

2011
1 of 7 hospitals in the U.S. to receive HealthGrades® Liver Transplant Excellence Award™.

2012
Ranked #1 in the Nation in liver transplants by CareChex®, 1 of 7 hospitals in the U.S. to receive HealthGrades® Liver Transplant Excellence Award™.

2013
Tied for performing the most adult liver transplants of any U.S. medical center, according to statistics compiled by the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

First Total Artificial Heart bridge to transplant in Gulf South Region performed at Ochsner.
Since its inception in 1984, the Ochsner Multi-Organ Transplant Institute has performed more than 4,500 life-saving transplants, making it one of the nation’s leading transplant centers. During 2013, the Transplant Institute strengthened its position as an international leader by achieving highest national benchmarks for quality. In all aspects, Ochsner has emerged as one of the world’s most renowned, comprehensive transplant programs, serving patients with advancing research, skilled staff, high clinical success rates and a resource-rich support program unparalleled in meeting patient needs.

WHO WE ARE
The Ochsner Multi-Organ Transplant Institute performs liver, kidney, kidney/pancreas, heart and lung transplants for adults and children. We have united exceptional teams of skilled surgeons, physicians, researchers, APICS, nurses, social workers, doctors of pharmacy, dieticians, coordinators and support staff to deliver comprehensive, highly advanced transplant care that saves lives and restores health. Over the decades, experience and high volumes have been matched by rising patient success rates. The Transplant Institute offers accommodations for patients and families, as well as special services necessary for international patients. The Transplant Institute shares the same qualities of Ochsner Health System as a leader in patient care: medical innovation, commitment to multidisciplinary care and exemplary support services for patient well-being.

HOW OCHSNER’S HISTORY SHAPES OUR CARE
Ochsner Health System has pioneered many medical advances, including being one of the first institutions to link smoking to lung cancer. Organ transplants are another Ochsner “first”, with groundbreaking work that started the Transplant Institute on a pathway of achievement. These include completing the first heart transplant in the region in 1970 and first liver transplant in 1975. By pursuing research and clinical excellence and adding programs for even the most rare and complex organ transplants, the Transplant Institute continues to grow and serve more patients.

WHAT OCHSNER MEANS TO PATIENTS
- Patient survival rates consistently above national averages.
- In 2013, tied for performing the most liver transplants in the U.S.
- Medicare-approved transplant center for heart, liver, kidney and lung transplants.
- Center of Excellence for most insurers, including United Resource Network. Programs earning this designation are recognized for improving patient outcomes, efficiency and quality.

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WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED
The life of each organ transplant patient is our most significant accomplishment. Ochsner works as a team to achieve new medical advances and optimal efficiencies that save more lives. Each Ochsner transplant program has earned accolades. In 2013, we tied for performing the most adult liver transplants of any U.S. hospital.

We perform more than 20 Medicare-approved heart transplants each year, making Ochsner the largest program in the state. In 2013, more than 3,000 potential transplant candidates were referred to our Institute, with 363 of these candidates receiving a transplant.

HOW WE WORK TO SAVE MORE LIVES THROUGH TRANSPLANTS
Since one donor can save as many as nine people, Ochsner avidly promotes organ donation through public education and donor recruitment programs. With more than 117,000 American men, women and children waiting for life-saving organ transplants and an average of 18 Americans dying each day because of the lack of available organs, we are doing all we can to encourage more people to become donors.

WHO WE SERVE
Since its early days, Ochsner has been a healthcare center for both national and international patients, including those from Central and South America. Many of the specialized services developed at Ochsner assist patients from other countries, and the Transplant Institute follows this tradition with adults and children from around the world coming to Ochsner for organ transplants. We’ve treated transplant patients from 37 states and 10 countries.

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LIVER TRANSPLANTS

RANKED NUMBER ONE IN THE NATION

By focusing on innovations and improving patient outcomes, Ochsner was named number one in the country for liver transplants by CareChex®. This extraordinary record of achievement continues to set new international standards for excellence.

Liver transplant patients at Ochsner have survival rates that exceed national average rates at one month, one year and three year marks. In 2013, the one-year survival rate was 92 percent, compared to 89 percent nationally. The length of time patients wait for a liver transplant at Ochsner is also far below national averages and continues to decrease. The most recent average wait time is twenty-five days. Ochsner remains the state’s most active liver transplant program and one of the most active in the nation.

RANKED NUMBER ONE IN THE NATION

LIVER TRANSPLANTS IN 2013

1975

THE YEAR THE FIRST LIVER TRANSPLANT IN LOUISIANA WAS PERFORMED

1,250+

LIVER TRANSPLANTS PERFORMED IN ADULTS AND CHILDREN

2013 PATIENT SURVIVAL AFTER LIVER TRANSPLANT

Excellence in patient care begins with our clinical research program. Our hepatologists pursue leading-edge work in treating viral hepatitis that actually allows many patients to avoid the need for a transplant. Ochsner offers the most advanced liver transplant procedures, including living donor, split liver and reduced-size transplants. In 2012, Ochsner reintroduced living donor transplants, the only program of its kind in the state. Using a liver from a living donor, related or unrelated, is a way to combat the national organ shortage and provide a high-quality organ before the recipient’s health deteriorates. Forty to sixty percent of the donor’s liver is removed for transplant, but the organ regenerates to its former size within eight weeks.

Patients benefit from all aspects of clinical care. Our teams have streamlined the transplant process, resulting in shorter operating room times and decreased use of blood products. At Ochsner, the average liver transplant lasts only four hours, and most patients are extubated immediately after surgery. These innovations have led to fewer days in intensive care—two on average—and a total hospital stay that for the most part is eight days or less. Many patients are discharged as early as the fourth day after liver transplant surgery.

Our staff’s care and support for liver transplant patients and their families are exemplary. Our coordinators, social workers and support groups guide patients through this challenging health crisis. Support for patients starts during evaluation and continues long after transplant.

Karen Torrey, 70, of Redlands, California, had an auto-immune disease that damaged her liver and kidneys. Matthew, a 1-year-old from Lafayette, LA, had a birth defect that caused liver malfunction.

On November 13, 2013 one liver, a perfect match for both patients became available. Ochsner transplant teams performed a successful split liver transplant, an advanced procedure that divides the liver so that two patients can benefit. Originally developed to provide livers to two pediatric patients, this technique can now help a child and an adult. Matthew received the small lobe, and the larger lobe went to Karen, who also received a kidney. Ochsner surgeons helped both patients, who are doing well, receive the gift of life.
Ochsner is an international leader in heart care and heart transplants. When John Ochsner, MD, performed Louisiana’s first heart transplant in 1970, the procedure was largely experimental. Since that time, heart transplantation has evolved into standard therapy for end-stage heart failure, and Ochsner Health System’s patients have benefited from many of these advances. Today, Ochsner’s heart transplant program still brings groundbreaking innovations to patients from throughout the world. At Ochsner, 844 patients have undergone heart transplants, a near-record number among U.S. hospitals.

In 2013, we completed more than 29 heart transplants, with survival rates exceeding national averages. Patient survival rates were 92 percent at one year and 89 percent at three years.

Ochsner recognizes that treating heart failure requires a multi-faceted approach and a highly skilled inter-disciplinary team. Our heart failure and transplantation team, also part of the John Ochsner Heart and Vascular Institute, is rated as one of the top 25 programs in the country for Heart and Heart Surgery by U.S. News & World Report. The John Ochsner Heart and Vascular Institute provides innovative technologies and treatments for the full spectrum of heart conditions, from hypertension to advanced heart failure.

The heart failure and transplantation team includes cardiovascular surgeons, transplant cardiologists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, transplant coordinators, social workers, financial coordinators, pharmacists, dietitians and other health professionals.

Research, clinical trials and exploring new technologies are essential to our program. A prime example of our commitment to technology is Ochsner’s emergence as the state’s largest provider of left-ventricular assist devices (LVAD) as both a bridge to transplant and destination therapy. Since 1990, teams have implanted over 30 LVADs annually.

Ochsner’s experienced and skilled pediatric heart surgeons and cardiologists treat all types of pediatric heart disease, from congenital anomalies such as hypoplastic left heart syndrome to acquired heart disease such as dilated cardiomyopathy. Ochsner also has an adult congenital heart disease program—a collaborative effort between pediatrics and adult cardiology.

From pre-transplant evaluations to post-surgical support groups, Ochsner eases the emotional and social issues heart transplant patients and families face.
In 2013, Ochsner kidney recipients who received an organ from a deceased donor had a one-year survival rate of 95 percent, compared to 92 percent nationally, and three-year survival rate of 88 percent, compared to 82 percent nationally. Ochsner’s living donor transplant recipients have 100 percent survival rates at one month and one year, also above U.S. averages.

An advanced approach benefiting combined kidney/pancreas patients is use of the innovative portal venous-enteric drainage technique whenever possible. Median length of hospital stay for kidney transplant patients is four days. Patients experience comprehensive care from a specialized team, including transplant surgeons, transplant nephrologists, transplant coordinators and social workers who support patients from evaluation to post-transplant recovery.

Ochsner’s active living donor kidney program offers recipients many advantages: better success rates, shorter wait times and more time to prepare for surgery. The program fully prepares and evaluates potential donors considering kidney donation.

Kidney transplants were pioneered at Ochsner in 1973. In this century, surgeons are leading the way to new advances in kidney transplants that promise to save even more lives.

Survival rates that exceed national averages and highest levels of experience and skill are the hallmarks of Ochsner’s exceptional, internationally recognized kidney transplant program. Since pioneering work in performing the state’s first kidney and kidney/pancreas transplants, Ochsner’s program has grown in size and expertise. Skilled teams perform kidney transplants in adults and children using organs from living and deceased donors, as well as kidney/pancreas and solitary pancreas transplants.

Ochsner leads with high survival rates, nationally recognized expertise

2013 graft survival after cadaveric kidney transplant

98.48% 75%
97.17% 80%
95.03% 90%
92.04% 100%
88.64% 1 month
82.65% 1 year
1 year
3 years

138
Kidney transplants in 2013—39 living donors, 77 deceased donors, 22 kidney/pancreas donors

OCHSNER LEADS WITH HIGH SURVIVAL RATES, NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED EXPERTISE

• Ranked number two in the nation in kidney transplants by CareChex®, a service of the Delta Group in 2013.
• Medicare-approved kidney, kidney/pancreas transplant program.
• Center of Excellence for many insurers.

Program highlights

2013 annual report

Multi-organ transplant institute

Chase Cunningham, 38, of Hattiesburg, Mississippi has a smile that lights up any room. She constantly celebrates life and rebirth. At age 9, Cunningham developed Type 1 diabetes after an illness. Her youth was defined by insulin injections and limits on activities. Eventually diabetes caused her kidneys to fail. On Feb. 6, 2012, Cunningham underwent a kidney-pancreas transplant at Ochsner. Eight months later, she ran a 5-K race. She will compete at the upcoming Transplant Games to show there are no limits to what recipients can achieve. Cunningham encourages organ donation as “a way for the donor to live on and give people a second chance to laugh, love, and especially, live.”

CHASE CUNNINGHAM, KIDNEY & PANCREAS TRANSPLANT PATIENT
Ochsner unites leading transplant pulmonologists, transplant surgeons, cardiothoracic surgeons and specially trained anesthesiologists, along with the Transplant Institute’s stellar transplant coordinators, social workers and other support professionals. The results are positive. Ochsner’s comprehensive, multidisciplinary lung transplant teams have achieved strong volumes and in 2013 a one-month survival rate of almost 98 percent and 3-year survival rate of 83 percent, which exceeded national averages. Patient waiting periods remain short.

Resource-intensive lung transplants carry a higher risk of rejection. Candidates for transplant usually have pulmonary hypertension, cystic fibrosis, emphysema or idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Harvested lungs require extremely delicate handling, and even the life-sustaining ventilator poses a threat after surgery.

Ochsner’s lung transplant program is meeting these challenges to benefit patients and improve their outcomes. Through research, skilled surgeons and physicians, clinical expertise, support services and a commitment to patient support, the program is poised to pursue more life-saving advances in the future.

Ochsner excels in performing highly advanced, complex lung transplants, with survival rates that exceeded national averages in 2013. Ochsner’s successful program completes 15 lung transplants each year, meeting great needs among end-stage lung disease patients. Louisiana and Mississippi have high rates of lung disease, and these patients often have few options other than transplant.

In the years following Hurricane Katrina, Ochsner redeveloped its lung transplant program out of a commitment to offer patients the most advanced clinical and research resources in all aspects of transplantation, even the most complex and rare.

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Sylvia Jones, 54, of New Orleans, Louisiana enjoyed good health when she suddenly began having difficulty breathing. Ochsner specialists diagnosed severe lung disease. Soon she was on the waiting list for a dual lung transplant. Jones had her surgery in November 2011, sooner than she had anticipated. Recovery took time, but today Jones can enjoy any activity, including exercise, with no breathing problems. The oxygen therapy she depended on is a memory. Jones says Ochsner has become like family. She feels the staff was open and encouraging and fully prepared her for all aspects of transplantation.

Sylvia Jones, Lung Transplant Patient

In 2013, patient survival rates exceed national averages.
ADDITIONAL TRANSPLANT PROGRAMS

LEUKEMIA, BLOOD & BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTS
Advanced Technologies Delivered In A World-Class Center. Patients benefit from Ochsner’s state-of-the-art, comprehensive program delivering the full range of care, from diagnosis to long-term follow-up, for all adult hematologic malignancies. These include leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma, aplastic anemia and immune deficiency diseases. The program earned internationally recognized accreditation from the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Ochsner offers autologous, allogeneic and umbilical cord transplants. The program’s special focus is on hematopoietic stem cell transplant, an advanced procedure which delivers these multi-potent cells, derived from bone marrow, peripheral blood or umbilical cord blood. Stem cells can differentiate into more specialized cells that can act as a repair system for the body.

Patients receive care in facilities specially designed to meet world-class standards of excellence. The transplant unit is equipped with the highest quality air purification and filtration systems. An outpatient infusion suite at Ochsner’s Gayle and Tom Benson Cancer Center delivers advanced treatments in an environment designed for patient comfort.

Working with highly trained and experienced physicians from LSU Health Sciences Center, Ochsner offers patients leading research, clinical trials and an on-site stem cell processing center.

PATHWAY TO WELLNESS
Every patient who comes to Ochsner receives respect and compassion. We nurture patients and their families and support their emotional and social needs. We help patients follow a pathway to wellness emphasizing a comprehensive and collaborative approach to well-being. This extra measure of care is especially important for transplant patients because of the complexity of their treatment and the life-long nature of our relationship.

HIGHLIGHTS
- Dedicated transplant inpatient unit and outpatient infusion suite
- Active clinical trials
- On-site processing of harvested stem cells through Ochsner Blood Bank and American Association of Blood Banks

WHY OCHSNER?
Respect and support for wellness care are essential. As an internationally renowned transplant center, Ochsner excels in supporting total patient well-being along with delivering excellent medical care.

PATIENT-TRANSPLANT TEAM COVENANT
Ochsner created a Patient-Transplant Team Covenant to help promote trusting relationships and foster highest standards of care. The Covenant is a series of commitments made by Ochsner patients and caregivers, who pledge to work together with respect, trust and in partnership.

Through the Covenant, Ochsner transplant staff commit to always value patients as people, tell patients the truth with compassion and include patients as active team members. In turn, patients agree to value their caregivers as people, tell the truth with confidence and be active members of the transplant team. The partnerships among patients and the transplant team start with the first visit and continue over many years.

Ochsner Transplant Surgeon Trevor Reichman, MD, PhD, says the Covenant helps caregivers and patients understand what they can expect from each other and what their responsibilities are in this long-term relationship. “Because transplant care is so complex and because we work so intensely with our patients, we need to trust and respect each other. The Covenant helps us develop those essential qualities that can influence a patient’s outcomes.”

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The Laboratory of Transplant Research focuses on methods to improve the quality of donor livers in order to increase the numbers of usable livers available without increasing the risk to potential recipients. The lab focuses on a specific enzyme (Tumor Necrosis Factor Alpha Converting Enzyme) involved in liver regeneration and cell death and has identified potential drugs (TIMP-3) which may block these targets. Other research interests include the role of liver stem cells in liver transplantation.

When a patient comes to Ochsner for an organ transplant, they can be assured they will be supported and guided from evaluation through post-transplant living. Ochsner understands that organ transplant patients and their families have many unique needs, and our staff provides every possible service to meet those needs. Each transplant program is comprehensive and recognizes that supporting patients is an essential part of their medical care.

SUPPORT GROUPS NURTURE PATIENT WELL-BEING

Patients and family members offer valuable, unique help to other transplant patients. This understanding has led the Transplant Institute to create a robust Support Group program.

Support Groups are essential to helping transplant patients and their families cope with major medical crises and emerge healthier and stronger. Social workers, with expertise in transplant issues, lead a variety of different support groups to help educate, heal and nurture patients and families. Whether the challenge is handling emotions, practical concerns, family dynamics or adapting to change, patients can count on Ochsner Support Groups for understanding and solutions.

Support groups are offered for each of our organ transplant programs and for patients coping with medical issues that make them candidates for transplant. Patients and families may attend these Support Groups at Ochsner:

- Multi-Organ Transplant Support Group for all pre- and post-transplant patients and caregivers.
- Liver Transplant Support Group
- Lung Transplant Support Group
- Ventricular Assist Device Support Group
- Heart Failure Support Group
- Pulmonary Hypertension Support Group
- International Transplant Support Group, conducted in Spanish

Contact (504) 842-3925 to learn more.
Safe, rapid emergency transportation for critically ill patients is available from Ochsner’s own fleet of medically equipped helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft and ground vehicles. The staff provides quality out-of-hospital critical care from bedside to bedside. Flight Care is staffed with critical care nurses with specialty training. Physicians and other specialty staff are available if needed. Flight Care is on call to serve all the needs of transplant patients.

Ochsner takes pride in offering convenient, quality accommodations for families and patients. We understand how challenging it can be to travel away from home for an organ transplant, and we offer convenient options to help.

Combining the comfort of a full-service hotel with a convenient location on the Ochsner campus, Brent House has provided quality accommodations for patients, families and the public since 1954. Family members simply walk down a corridor to visit the hospital. The American Automobile Association awarded Brent House its 3-Diamonds distinction. Brent House features spacious rooms, a cafe, a gourmet coffee shop, pool and fitness center. Contact 1-800-535-3986 or visit brenthouse.com.

In some instances, transplant patients and families from outside the New Orleans area may need more long-term accommodations. Ochsner offers affordable, comfortable apartments at the Levee Run complex within walking distance of the hospital. Each apartment is furnished, equipped with a full kitchen and has convenient parking.

Welcoming International Patients With World-Class Care. Serving patients from other countries has been an Ochsner tradition for decades. As a referral center for patients from throughout the world and particularly from Central and South America, Ochsner offers a variety of services to put them more at ease. A resourceful International Health Services department provides full translation and interpretation services in every language. Each patient is assigned a coordinator to ensure that his or her particular needs are met. Ochsner staff is sensitive and responsive to each patient’s clinical, cultural and spiritual concerns. These services are available seven days a week.
TRANSPLANT PHYSICIANS

HEPATOLOGISTS
Natalie H. Bzowej, MD, PhD
Section of Gastroenterology & Hepatology
Liver Transplant Hepatologist
Nigel Girgrah, MD, PhD
Medical Director, Multi-Organ Transplant Institute
Chairman, Gastroenterology & Hepatology
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Liver Transplant Hepatologist
George Therapondos, MBChB, MPH, FRCP (Edin)
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Liver Transplant Hepatologist
Gia Tyson, MD, MPH
Liver Transplant Hepatologist

PULMONOLOGISTS
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Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine
Liver Transplantation
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Section of Abdominal Organ Transplantation
Surgical Director, Pancreas Transplantation
David S. Bruce, MD, FACS
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Jose Mena, MD, FACS
Transplant Surgeon
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Liver Transplant surgeon
Surgical Director, Kidney Transplant Program
Associate Professor
Director, Transplant Research
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Surgical Director, Multi-Organ Transplant Institute
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Cardiothoracic Surgery
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Medical Director, Cardiomyopathy and Heart Failure Program
Stacy A. Mandras, MD
Medical Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Program
Hamang M. Patel, MD, FACC
Medical Director, Pre-Transplant Program
Hector O. Ventura, MD, FACC, FACP
Section Head, Cardiomyopathy and Heart Transplantation

TO INITIATE A PATIENT REFERRAL, PLEASE CALL THE TRANSPLANT HOTLINE:
1.800.643.1635 OR 504.842.3925
FOR 24/7 PHONE CONSULTS AND/OR TRANSFERS, PLEASE CALL THE REGIONAL REFERRAL CENTER:
1.855.OHS.LINK (647.5465)

For more information, visit: ochsner.org/transplant

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