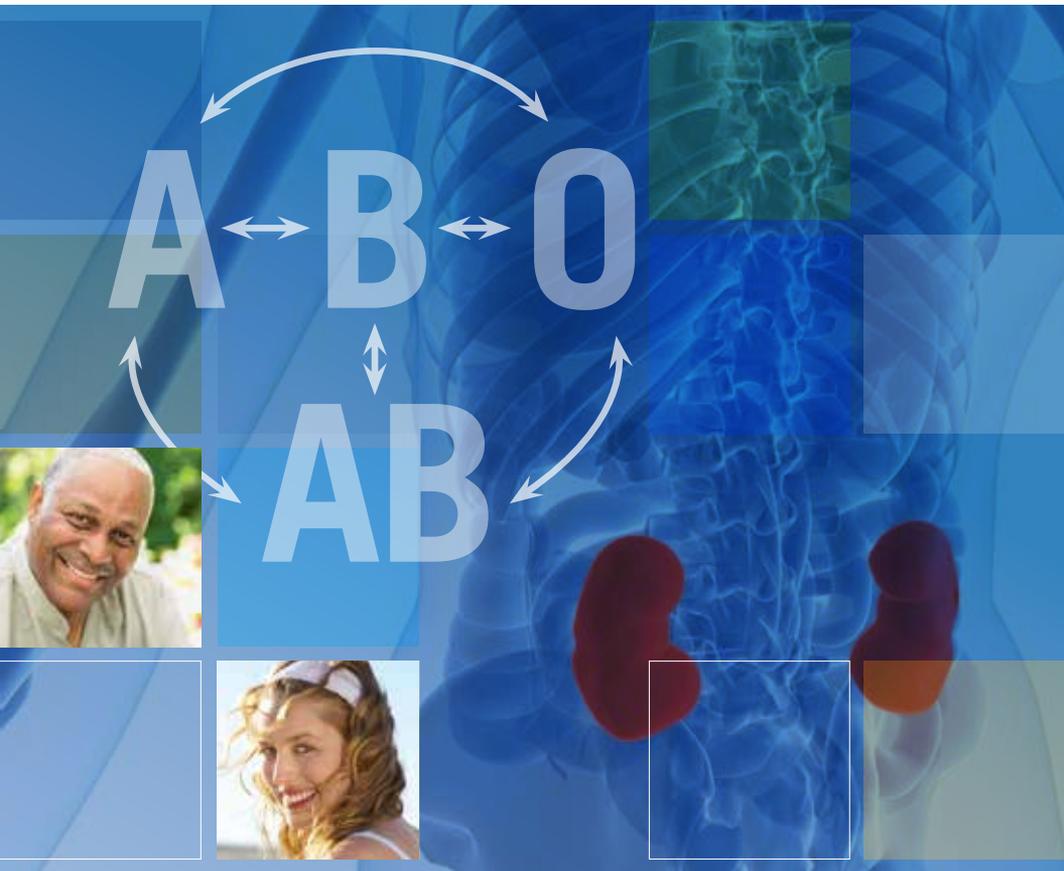


# Incompatible Blood Type Kidney Transplant

Transforming lives, one patient at a time



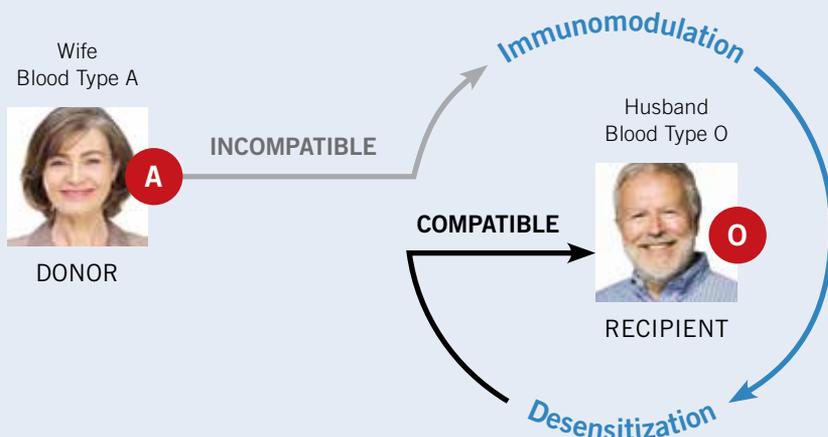
# An option for patients with incompatible blood type living donors

## What is an Incompatible Blood Type?

Until recently, a kidney transplant could not be performed unless both the kidney recipient and his or her donor had compatible blood types. About one-third of donors and recipients were declined due to ABO blood type incompatibility.

Now, using an innovative desensitization technique, we can eliminate a recipient's reaction to an incompatible blood type, allowing more people to receive and benefit from a kidney transplant.

## How Blood Group Incompatible Transplantation works:





## How do we perform ABO Incompatible Transplantation?

If a person receives a kidney from someone with an incompatible blood type, the normal immune system will reject the kidney immediately due to our natural antibodies against different blood types. To prepare for ABO incompatible transplantation, a simple blood test is performed to determine the amount of antibody in the bloodstream. Most people have a level of antibody that is treatable. Then, the patient undergoes a series of treatments to remove the blood group antibodies.

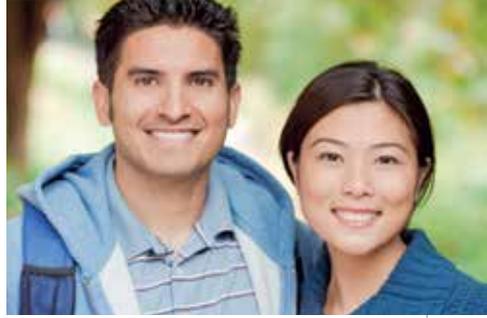
**We call this two-step process desensitization and immune modulation:**

- First, we remove existing blood group antibodies from your bloodstream using a process called plasmapheresis, which looks similar to dialysis. Generally, people have at least several sessions of treatment before transplantation but the number depends on how much antibody you have.
- Second, we use IVIG and other medications to turn off the cells in your body from making more blood group antibodies.

Once your antibodies are at an acceptable level, the transplant can be performed. This is usually about two to three weeks after the first plasmapheresis. We continue to monitor your antibody levels after transplant. Two weeks after the operation, your medications and treatment regimens are the same as for blood group compatible transplant patients.

## What can my donor expect?

The procedure for the person who is donating a kidney to you is exactly the same as for blood group compatible donors. *The special treatments are only necessary for you.*



## How do we get started?

Call (310) 267-6907

## For more information

[transplants.ucla.edu](https://transplants.ucla.edu)



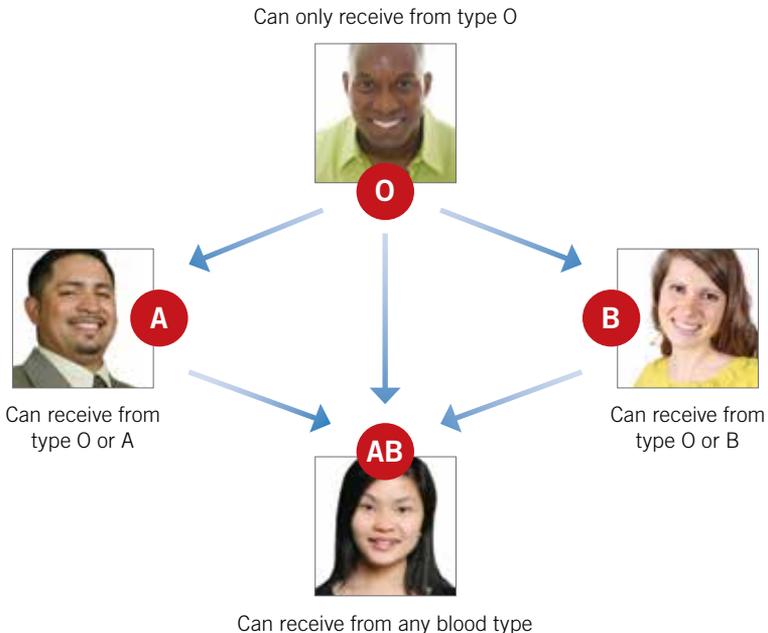
“The ABO incompatible transplant I received gave myself, and most importantly my family, the life back we thought we had lost forever. If you’re in need of a transplant and don’t have a traditional match, it’s a ‘no-brainer’ option.

— Keith B.

## ABO blood type compatibility at a glance

O, A, B, and AB — all people have one of these four blood types. We are all compatible with our own blood type and possibly with others:

- **AB patients** can get a kidney of any blood type. They are the universal recipient.
- **A patients** can get a kidney from someone with an O or A blood type.
- **B patients** can get a kidney from someone with an O or B blood type.
- **O patients** can only get a kidney from someone with the O blood type.



UCLA's Kidney Transplantation Program performed some of the earliest transplantations in the United States, and for more than 50 years has been a national leader in both clinical research and academic excellence. UCLA is one of the largest kidney transplant programs in the country, performing more than 300 transplantations each year. More importantly, UCLA has some of the best outcomes, according to the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients, a national database of organ transplant statistics.

“Because of my ABO incompatible transplant, I feel like the luckiest person alive. I never thought my life would ever be as great as it is now. I'd like to thank my wife, Dr. Lipshutz, and the transplant team for transforming my life.”

— *Michael S.*



### UCLA Kidney Transplant Program

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