

COVID-19 Pandemie Fact sheet concerning recipients

The following applies for recipients of organs/tissue from deceased donors:

Potential recipients of organs/tissue without symptoms of an upper or lower respiratory infection do not need to be tested for COVID-19. As previously, potential recipients who show symptoms of an acute infectious disease at the time a transplantation is due to be carried out should be fully informed, and a risk analysis must be carried out by their doctor. For potential recipients with symptoms of an upper or lower respiratory tract infection, a nasopharyngeal swab diagnosis for COVID-19 must be carried out.

Transplantations can only be carried out if the COVID-19 test is negative and the general condition of the patient is good enough for the transplantation to go ahead.

The following applies for recipients of organs/tissue from living donors:

PCR diagnostics must have been carried out on all recipients to exclude the possibility of COVID-19 infection (oro- or nasopharyngeal swab). The test cannot be more than 72 hours old. A repeat test is required if the time window exceeds 72 hours. If the PCR test on the recipient is positive, the transplantation must not be carried out. If the test cannot be performed in the hospital in which the organ or tissue is removed, the Swisstransplant National Transplant Coordination must be contacted on +41 58 123 80 40.

Bern, 9 March 2020 Dr. med. Cédric Hirzel | President STAI | Swisstransplant Infectiology Working Group
PD Dr. med. Franz Immer | Medical Director/CEO | Swisstransplant

For further information, please contact directly: F. Immer (franz.immer@swisstransplant.org)