

History of organ and tissue transplantation

The history of successful organ and tissue transplantation is only a century old, but is marked by many milestones that have saved many lives. Australia has been a leader in pioneering liver transplantation.

Year	Milestone	Location
1823	First skin auto graft transplantation of skin tissue from one location on an individual's body to another location	Germany
1905	First human-to-human corneal transplant. This was also the first successful human-to-human transplant of any kind	Moravia (now Czech Republic)
1908	First skin allograft-transplantation of skin from a donor to a recipient	Switzerland
Early 1940's	Australia begins corneal transplants	Sydney and Melbourne
1954	First living related kidney transplant (identical twins)	USA
1955	First heart valve allograft into descending aorta	Canada
1962	First kidney transplant from a deceased donor	USA
1965	Australia's first successful (living) kidney transplant	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, SA, Australia
1967	First successful liver transplant	USA
1967	First heart transplant	South Africa
1968	First pancreas transplant	USA
1979	Living related pancreas (mother to child)	USA
1981	First heart/lung transplant	USA
1983	First successful lung transplant	Canada
1983	Cyclosporine approved for commercial use in USA. A revolutionary anti-rejection drug, it heralded a new era for kidney, liver and heart transplantation	USA
1984	First heart-liver transplant	USA
1984	Australia's first successful heart transplant	St Vincent's Hospital, NSW, Australia
1985	Australia's first successful liver transplant	Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, QLD, Australia
1985	Australia's first successful kidney transplant from a deceased donor	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Adelaide, Australia
1986	First successful double lung transplant	Canada
1986	The 'Brisbane Technique' for splitting livers to benefit three recipients initiated	Princess Alexandra Hospital, QLD, Australia
1986	Australia's first successful heart/lung transplant	St Vincent's Hospital, NSW, Australia
1987	Australia's first successful kidney/pancreas transplant	Westmead Hospital, NSW, Australia



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1987	First segmental liver transplant (for children)	Princess Alexandra Hospital, QLD, Australia
1988	First successful intestinal transplant	UK
1988	First successful liver-bowel transplant	UK
1988	First two-in-one liver transplant (one liver is split for two recipients)	France
1989	First successful living liver transplant	Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld, Australia
1989	First combination heart, liver, and kidney transplant	USA
1990	First living related lung transplant	USA
1990	Australia's first successful single lung transplant	St Vincent's Hospital, NSW, Australia
1992	Xenotransplant (pig liver to human)	USA
1992	Xenotransplant (baboon's liver to human)	USA
1995	World's first laparoscopic live-donor nephrectomy in which a patient's kidney is removed through a 5 to 6 cm incision.	USA
1995	Transplantation of all abdominal organs	USA
1998	First successful human hand transplant (later removed)	France
2002	First single segment liver transplant on a baby (24 days old)	Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld, Australia
2003	Australia's first triple transplant (heart, lung, liver)	Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld, Australia
2005	First successful partial face transplant	France
2005	First living donor islet transplant	Japan
2006	World's first kidney/liver/pancreas transplant	Royal Price Alfred Hospital, NSW, Australia
2009	Paediatric transplant for small bowel, liver, pancreas and two kidneys	USA

Sources include:

Chapman, JR, 1992, Transplantation in Australia—50 years of progress. MJA 157: 47
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<http://www.medhunters.com/Article/transplantTimelineLiverPancreas>
 Australian Department of Health and Ageing National Clinical Taskforce on Organ and Tissue Donation – Final Report 2008

For more information visit www.donatelife.gov.au

Make sure you and your loved ones discuss your wish to be an organ donor. Some 2000 Australians waiting for donor organs wish you would.

Australian Organ and Tissue Authority
 Level 5, 51 Allara Street Canberra ACT 2600
 PO Box 295 Civic Square ACT 2608
 Telephone 02 6198 9800 Facsimile 02 6198 9801



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