



UNC
KIDNEY CENTER

Podcast Transcript:

Dr. Ron Falk

Anti-GBM

“Anti-GBM: Will the disease come back in a transplanted kidney?”

Patient: So let’s say that my kidneys don’t get better, and then I need a kidney transplant. Can the disease come back, if I get a kidney transplant?

Dr Falk: That’s a great question. Unfortunately, the disease can come back in a transplanted kidney. Almost all centers throughout the world do not put in a new kidney, if there’s evidence in your blood that this antibody, the Anti-GBM antibody, is still in your circulation. So most of us wait until that level is normal or near-normal, before we consider a transplant. A transplant really shouldn’t be done if there’s substantial amount of this antibody still in you.

The good news for most patients, this antibody goes away over the course of time, and if need be, it can be removed by drugs that help get rid of antibody production. Once the transplant goes in, disease process hardly ever, ever occurs.