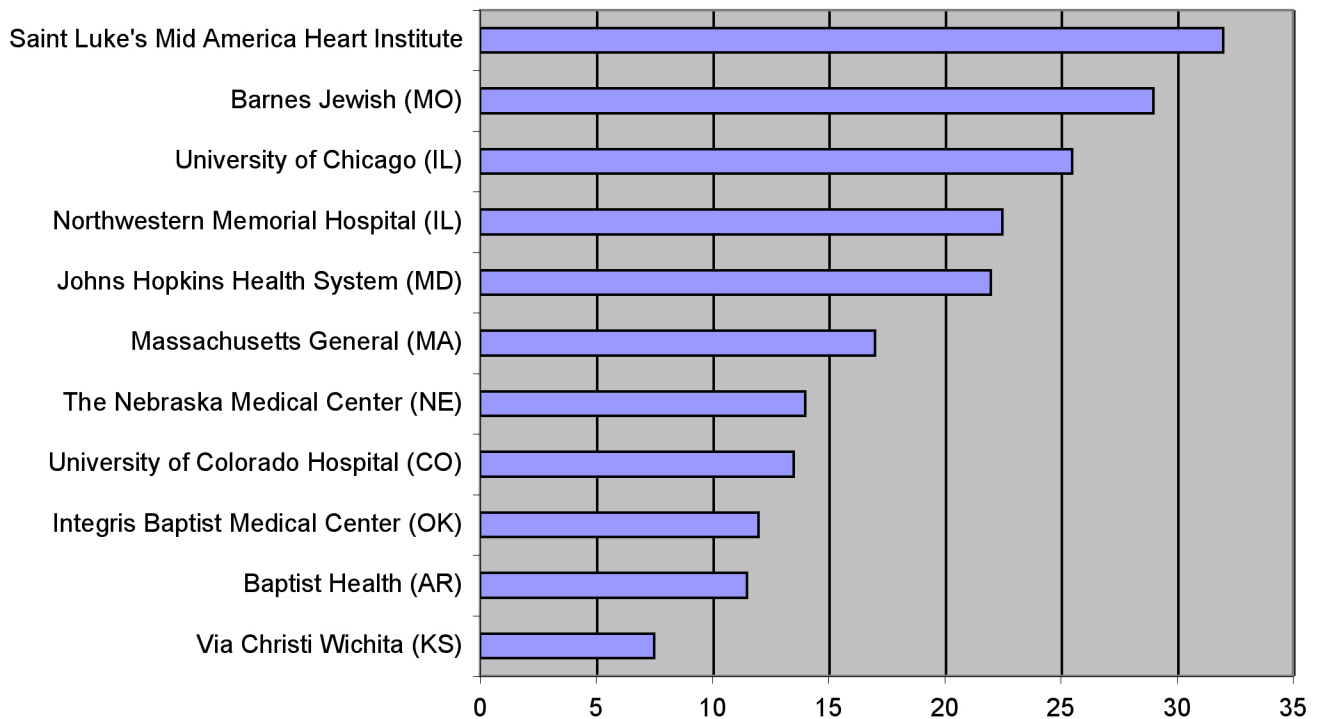


# Kansas City's Cardiac Transplant Program

*Recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of the nation's best heart and heart surgery programs, 2007 and 2008.*

## Average Annual Volume of Cardiac Transplants



*Source: U.S. Transplants Performed: Based on OPTN data. Average is from 2006 and 2007.*

### Shorter waiting times

In 2006 and 2007, 100 percent of our patients received transplants in less than six months on the waiting list. The average wait was 36 days. Nationally, only 22 percent of patients are transplanted in less than six months. [ustransplant.org](http://ustransplant.org).

### Performing More Transplants

Established in 1985, Saint Luke's performed an average of 31 transplants per year (2005-2007). Eighty percent of hospitals transplant 20 or fewer patients per year.

## Cardiovascular Expertise

- Transplant surgeons bring extensive experience from America's most prominent medical centers and provide a level of cardiovascular expertise unmatched in the region.
- Our anesthesia team, exclusively dedicated to cardiovascular anesthesia, is skilled in the latest cardiovascular techniques, including perioperative transesophageal echocardiography.
- Heart failure and transplant medical management is provided by our specialized board of certified cardiologists.
- Dedicated cardiovascular transplant nurse coordinators collaborate to direct patient care throughout the entire pre- and post-transplantation process.
- An experienced multi-disciplinary team involving gastroenterology, infectious disease, neurology, nephrology, pastoral, psychiatry, pulmonology, and social services are ready to provide support throughout the process.

## Transplant Candidacy

### Indications:

- Intractable heart failure despite optimal medical/device therapies:
  - Patients with recurrent admissions despite compliance
  - Patients who are slowly deteriorating in functional capacity
  - Patients with declining renal function or decreasing serum sodium
  - Patients who develop new right heart failure symptoms
- Intractable angina without revascularization options
- Intractable arrhythmias despite medical/ablation therapies
- Age 65 or less, selected candidates >65 may be considered

## Easy Access and Options for Your Convenience

- Patients referred for transplantation are carefully evaluated to provide an opportunity for alternative therapy such as coronary revascularization or valve replacement/repair.
- Participation in multiple research protocols provides treatment options for candidates unable to undergo transplantation.
- Pre-transplantation work-ups are completed during a two or three day inpatient stay at Saint Luke's Hospital, conveniently located near hotels and the Country Club Plaza.
- Candidate acceptance is determined by a multi-disciplinary team and occurs within days after discharge.
- Daily Transplant Clinics and designed inpatient heart failure/transplant service ensures prompt ongoing management and communication back to referring physicians.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Transplant Nurse Coordinators

(816) 932-3264

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Monday - Friday

### Doctors' One Call

(877) 932-6200 (toll free)

24 hours a day

### Health Plans and Financial Inquires

(816) 932-3264

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Monday - Friday



SAINT LUKE'S HEALTH SYSTEM

[saintlukeshealthsystem.org](http://saintlukeshealthsystem.org)