

Mayo Clinic Medical Edge

Liver Failure

1:00

Log

Audio

Intro with music	GIVING YOU THE EDGE ON HEALTHY LIVING, HERE'S MAYO CLINIC MEDICAL EDGE.
	AFTER YOUR SKIN, IT'S PROBABLY THE LARGEST ORGAN IN THE BODY. DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS? IT'S NOT THE HEART. IT'S NOT A KIDNEY. IT'S YOUR LIVER.
Hugo Vargas, M.D. Track 1 (1:05)	"ITS FUNCTION IS PRIMARILY TO ORCHESTRATE THE ABSORPTION OF NUTRIENTS IN THE BODY AND ALSO TO ELIMINATE POTENTIAL AGENTS THAT ARE TOXIC TO THE BODY."
	AS A TRANSPLANT SPECIALIST AT MAYO CLINIC, DR. HUGO VARGAS SEES PATIENTS HEADED FOR LIVER FAILURE. HE SAYS THE

	LIVER CAN ABSORB A LOT OF DAMAGE SO THE DECLINE CAN TAKE YEARS, EVEN DECADES.
Dr. Vargas Track 1 (5:15)	“A LIVER THAT HAS INFLAMMATION, WHAT WE CALL HEPATITIS, PROGRESSES SLOWLY, LAYING DOWN SCAR UNTIL THE LIVER BECOMES CIRRHOTIC. WHEN A LIVER REACHES CIRRHOSIS THEN IT BECOMES NECESSARY TO CONSIDER LIVER TRANSPLANT.”
	ABOUT 6-THOUSAND LIVER TRANSPLANTS ARE PERFORMED EVERY YEAR IN THE UNITED STATES. BUT THE NEED IS ALMOST 3-TIMES THAT.
	FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ORGAN DONATION TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR OR VISIT MAYOCLINIC.ORG . I’M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.

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