

# 15 SIGNS YOU ARE A KIDNEY TRANSPLANTEE

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2020 June Transplantee who dedicates this to Paco Michelson

1. You no longer worry about where you are on the transplant waiting list.
2. You actually like being quarantined because you can lounge around your house in your underwear or pajamas and not worry about well-meaning people dropping in.
3. You not only wear your protective kidney pillow in the car, but also insist on wearing it everywhere even in the shower.
4. You stop blubbering about all the pills you have to take and start boasting about how many there are while casually mentioning both their scientific and trade names.
5. When everyone else is whining about masking, if you are a male, you are glad you don't have to shave unless you want to.
6. If you are a female, when everyone is making a fuss about masking, you are glad that you don't have to worry about your makeup.
7. You carry a tape measure or a six foot long yard stick around with you to make sure people around you are "social" distancing.
8. Your mind thinks you're still comfortably middle-aged, but your body keeps asking if you're sure you not dead yet.
9. With all those frequent the blood draws, you begin to wonder if your doctor is secretly Count Dracula.
10. You see people about your age mountain climbing or riding all-terrain motor cycles but you feel good about getting your leg through your underwear on the third try without losing your balance. (Bonus sign: You can get your underwear on without actually putting both legs in the same pant leg.)
11. When you come to see that life as a transplantee is like a helicopter...and you realize that you can't fly a helicopter.
12. When having plans sounds like a good idea until you realize this would mean putting on clothes and leaving the house.
13. You stop being embarrassed about discussing bodily functions and actually go into excruciating detail about them (with drawings) not only with your doctors, but also with anyone else you happen to be talking to.
14. When a trip to your doctor's office (even a video appointment) counts as going out.
15. You stop reading lists like this and get on with reading "real world" magazines, books, or possibly comic books. Or just spend quality time watching *Psych* videos.