In **2016** there were **267 living donors** comprising 265 kidney and 2 liver donors. This represents a **9% increase** in the number of living donors over 2015. The 265 living kidney donations included 44 donations through the Australian Paired Kidney Exchange (AKX) Program.

The AKX Program increases **live donor kidney transplants** by identifying matches for patients who are eligible for a kidney transplant, and have a living donor who is willing but unable to donate because of an incompatible blood type or tissue type.

The AKX Program has resulted in 198 successful live kidney transplants since commencing in 2010.

**How does AKX work?**

The AKX Program uses a computer program to search a database of registered recipient/donor pairs to look for combinations where the donor in an incompatible pair can be matched to a recipient in another pair. If the computer finds a compatible match, two or more simultaneous transplants can occur by exchanging donors.

Most transplanted organs and tissues come from deceased donors. However, living donation is an option for some patients. A living organ donor is someone who donates a kidney or partial liver to another person.

Source: Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry