

## U.S. Transplant Games

Imagine, 1,500 organ transplant recipients gathered together at an event to celebrate the miracle of transplant. That's what happens at the U.S. Transplant Games sponsored every other year by the National Kidney Foundation at various venues. The Transplant Games is an athletic event that offers the opportunity for high level competition for transplant recipients of all ages as well as an all out celebration of new life after transplant.

The 2002 U.S. Transplant Games will be held June 25-29 at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex in Florida.

Team Northern California is a highly visible team, mostly made up of transplant recipients from UCSF Medical Center. We have had many medal winners over the past several years, including Ray Velasco, a 1994 kidney transplant recipient and a swimmer who won four gold medals and was voted outstanding athlete at the 1996 Games in Salt Lake City. Ray went on to break all the swimming records at the 1997 and 1999 World Transplant Games.

The Transplant Rehabilitation Intervention Staff is actively involved in organizing Team Northern California and the UCSF Transplant Service has provided financial support for the Transplant Games efforts consistently since the Games began in 1990. Over 100 transplant recipients from UCSF have experienced the thrill of participating in the event over the past 10 years. We hope many more will take the opportunity to get fit and participate in the event that demonstrates to the world that transplantation is effective.

***This information is for educational purposes only and is not intended to replace the advice of your physician or health care provider. We encourage you to discuss with your physician any questions and concerns you may have.***