

Organ Donation

It's all about LIFE

Share your life

Nearly 80,000 Americans are waiting for life-saving organ transplants and hundreds of thousands more could benefit from tissue transplants. Unfortunately, the need for donors is much greater than the actual number of donors. Your commitment to organ and tissue donation can save lives.

Share your decision

The most important part of deciding to be a donor is telling your family. Talking about donation does not mean talking about death. It is talking about the opportunity to give another person a second chance at LIFE. Even if you have signed a donor card or indicated your wish to donate on your driver's license, you need to tell your family since they will be consulted before donation can take place.

TALK TO YOUR FAMILY ABOUT DONATING LIFE.

Sign the card below in your family's presence and carry in your wallet.

My Commitment to Donate Life Uniform Donor Card

I, _____, have spoken to my family about organ and tissue donation. I wish to donate:

any needed organs and tissue only the following organs and tissue:

The following people have witnessed my commitment to be a donor.

Donor Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

Donation Myths

Uncovered

MYTH
Myth: If the emergency room doctors know you're an organ donor, they won't work as hard to save you.

Truth
Truth: If you are sick or injured and admitted to the hospital, the number one priority is to save your life. Organ donation can only be considered if you die and after your family has been consulted.

MYTH
Myth: When you're waiting for a transplant your financial or celebrity status is as important as your medical status.

Truth
Truth: When you are on the transplant waiting list for a donor organ, what really counts is the severity of your illness, time spent waiting, blood type and other important medical information.

MYTH
Myth: Having "organ donor" noted on your driver's license or carrying a donor card is all you have to do to become a donor.

Truth
Truth: While a signed donor card and a driver's license with an "organ donor" designation are legal documents, organ and tissue donation is always discussed with family members prior to donation. To ensure that your family understands your wishes, it is important that you share your decision to donate LIFE.

TALK TO YOUR FAMILY ABOUT DONATING LIFE.

- People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential donors. Doctors will determine what organs and tissue can be donated at the time of death.
- All major religions approve of organ and tissue donation and consider donation the greatest gift.
- An open casket funeral is possible for organ and tissue donors.
- There is no national registry of organ and tissue donors. Even if you have signed something, be sure you have told your family your wishes.



Carolina Donor Services

(800) 200-2672

www.carolindonorservices.org