



LEGACY DONOR
FOUNDATION™

Q&A

Who can be a donor?

People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential deceased donors.

Q&A

How old do living donors have to be?

Living donors should be in good overall physical and mental health and over 18 years of age.

Q&A

Does registering as a donor change my patient care?

Doctors work hard to save every patient's life, but sometimes there is a complete and irreversible loss of brain function where the patient is declared clinically and legally dead. Only then is donation an option.

Q&A

Does my religion support organ, eye and tissue donation?

All major religions support donation as a final act of compassion and generosity.

Q&A

Is there a cost to be an organ, eye and tissue donor?

There is no cost to the donor's family or estate for donation. The donor family pays only for medical expenses before death and costs associated with funeral arrangements.

Q&A

Does my social and/or financial status play any part in whether or not I will receive an organ if I ever need one?

A national system matches available organs from the donor with people on the waiting list based on many factors, including: blood type, body size, how sick they are, distance from donor hospital and time on the list. Race, income, gender, celebrity, and social status are never considered.

Q&A

How many lives
can be saved by
organ donation?

You can save
up to 8 lives.

Q&A

What is another option for someone waiting for a kidney transplant?

A kidney from a living donor offers patients an alternative to years of dialysis and time on the national transplant waiting list (the living donor's remaining kidney will increase in size, doing the work of two healthy kidneys).

Q&A

Why register as a donor?

Your registration serves as a symbol of hope to patients waiting and sharing it with your family lets them know your decision.

Q&A

How do you pick who gets an organ?

A national system matches available organs from the donor with people on the waiting list.

Q&A

What is Brain Death?

Complete and irreversible
loss of brain function
when patient is declared
clinically and legally dead.

Q&A

Why are transplants important?

Transplants restore lives and return patients as active members of their families and communities.

Q&A

Where can someone register as an organ, eye, and tissue donor?

At the OMV when applying for or renewing a license or ID card, online at DonateLifeLA.org or in the Medical ID tab of the iPhone Health app.

Q&A

What organs are transplantable?

Kidneys (2), Liver,
Lungs (2), Heart,
Pancreas, and
Intestines

Q&A

Why is tissue donation important?

Doctors use tissue to restore sight, cover burns, repair hearts, replace veins, and mend damaged connective tissue and cartilage.

Q&A

Why is learning about organ, eye, and tissue donation important?

Complete and irreversible loss of brain function when patient is declared clinically and legally dead.

Q&A

Why is it important for people of every community to donate?

According to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), transplants can be successful regardless of the race or ethnicity of the donor and recipient. The chance of longer-term survival may be greater if the donor and recipient are closely matched in terms of their shared genetic background.

Q&A

Will my family meet the person who received my organs?

Due to medical privacy laws, the identities of organ donors and recipients must be kept anonymous unless both parties agree to share that information.

Fast Facts

A single tissue donor can help more than 75 people.

Fast Facts

More than 100,000 people are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants in the United States.

Fast Facts

Another person is added to the national transplant waiting list every 10 minutes.

Fast Facts

Sadly, more than 7,000 people die each year (on average 20 people each day—almost one person each hour) because the organs they need are not donated in time.

Fast Facts

Over 80% of individuals on the transplant waiting list are waiting for a kidney.

Fast Facts

11% of patients waiting are in need of a liver. Living donation of part of the liver can help these patients.

Fast Facts

Each year more than 2.5 million tissue transplants take place and the surgical need for donated tissue is steadily rising.

Fast Facts

Another person is added to the national transplant waiting list every 10 minutes.

Fast Facts

A single tissue donor can help more than 75 people.

Fast Facts

More than 66,000 corneal transplants take place annually to help restore sight.

Fast Facts

More than 1,700
children receive
transplants each year.

Fast Facts

According to a sample of the U.S. population, 90% of adults support organ donation but only 60% are actually signed up as donors.

Q&A

How many children under 18 are on the national transplant waiting list?

Around 1,900 children under 18 are on the waiting list.

Fast Facts

The liver is the only organ able to regenerate and after a living donor gives a part of their liver is donated, the remaining portion of the donor liver will regenerate and regain full function.

Fast Facts

More than 165 million people are registered organ, eye and tissue donors nationally.

Fast Facts

There are currently more than 2,000 people in Louisiana waiting for life-saving organ transplants.

Fast Facts

60% of patients awaiting lifesaving transplants are people of color.

Myth or Fact

“Rich or famous people get transplants faster.”

Myth.

Race, income, gender, celebrity and social status are never considered.

Myth or Fact

“Doctors won’t save my life if they know I am an organ donor.”

Myth.

In an emergency, it is the entire medical team’s first priority to save the life of their patient, and they will not check to see if you are an organ donor. Doctors work hard to save the patient’s life, but sometimes there is a complete and irreversible loss of brain function. The patient is declared clinically and legally dead. Only then is donation an option.

Myth or Fact

“The size of the organ is taken into account when matching donors to recipients.”

Fact.

Race, income, gender, celebrity and social status are never considered.

Myth or Fact

“I have a medical condition, so I can’t.”

Myth.

Anyone can register regardless of his or her medical history. A medical evaluation is done by donation professionals at the time of death to determine eligibility. If it is something you believe in, let the doctors make that decision when the time comes!

Myth or Fact

“I decide which organs and tissues I want donated.”

Fact.

After registering as a donor, you can go online to specify your donation preferences.

Myth or Fact

“I can't change my mind about being a registered organ, eye & tissue donor after I've registered.”

Myth.

You can remove your registration, update your personal information or specify more detailed donation preferences at any time.

Myth or Fact

“Blind or visually impaired individuals can donate their corneas.”

Fact.

The cause of blindness doesn't always involve cornea; some of the most common causes of blindness originate in the retina or macula. In those instances, the healthy corneal tissue could be donated to a patient suffering from blindness of the cornea and restore their sight.

Myth or Fact

“You can buy an organ.”

Myth.

In the United States, it is illegal to buy or sell organs and tissue for transplantation.

Myth or Fact

“A donor insignia has to be printed on my license to indicate I am a registered donor.”

Myth.

You do not have to have it printed on your license to be registered. The national and state registries are checked at the time of a person's death, regardless of if it is printed on his or her license. The insignia on a person's license or ID card is simply a reminder for the individual, not for medical professionals.

Myth or Fact

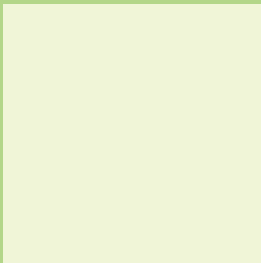
“If I donate my organs I will not be able to have an open casket funeral.”

Myth.

An open casket funeral is possible for organ, eye and tissue donors. Donation will not impact any other funeral arrangements either.

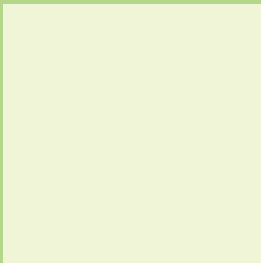
Stories

Savannah



Stories

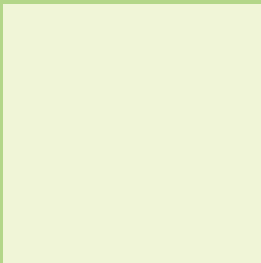
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Stories

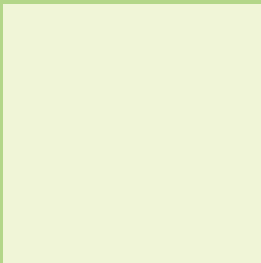
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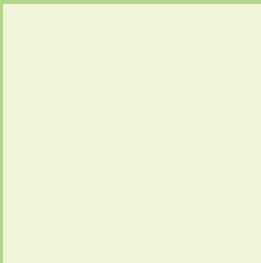
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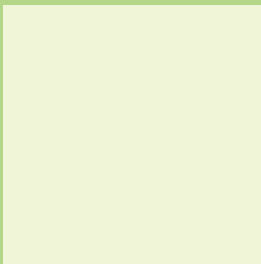
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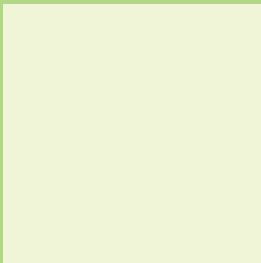
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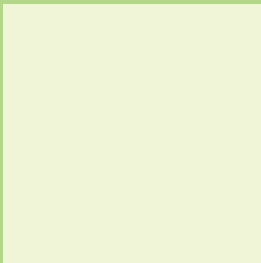
Jessie



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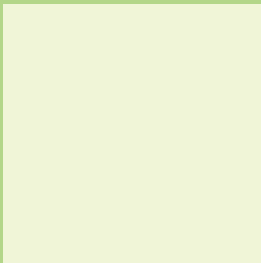
Stories

Keenen



Stories

Paul



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