

Organ and Tissue Donation

Every year in Canada, thousands of people are waiting for organ and tissue transplants. You can make the difference in the lives of many people by deciding to become a donor. Everyone has the potential to be an organ and tissue donor. The health of the donor, not the age, is the most important thing considered. Generally, organ donors are healthy people who have suffered an irreversible brain injury, as in a motor vehicle accident or a brain hemorrhage. Organs and tissues that can be donated include: kidneys, heart, lungs, liver, pancreas, small bowel, corneas, solid bones and joints, skin and heart valves.

Sign a Donor Card Today and Discuss Your Wishes with Your Family!

Signing a donor card is one way to indicate your wishes to be an organ and tissue donor. However, donor cards are often not available at the time of the donor's death. Therefore, it is important that you discuss your wishes with your family. Other people you may want to inform of this wish are your clergy and family doctor. A Living Will is another place where you can record your wishes. If you have named a proxy in your Living Will, the proxy has precedence over the legal next-of-kin to give consent for organ and tissue donation if you have discussed your wishes with your proxy.

Drivers under the age of 18 years require the signature of a parent or guardian. Simply cut out the card on the following page, complete the information, and keep it with your Manitoba Health Registration Certificate or Driver's Licence so it's visible for law enforcement and hospital officials. Your donor card is a legal document that allows you to give any or all tissues and organs after death.

DONOR CARD

Direction under *The Human Tissue Gift Act C.C.S.M. c. H180*

I, _____

direct the use, after my death (please check ✓) of:

- any needed organs or parts of my body; or
- the following specified organs or parts of my body, namely: _____

for the following purposes:

- transplant and other therapeutic purposes;
- medical education; scientific research.

Donor Signature	Date
_____	_____
Co-signature of parent or guardian where donor is under 18 years of age.	Date
_____	_____

For further information and extra donor cards, contact:

Transplant Manitoba – Gift of Life Program

www.transplantmanitoba.ca

204-787-1897

Tissue Bank Manitoba

204-940-1750

The Lions Eye Bank of Manitoba and Northwest Ontario Inc.

204-788-8419



ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

If you wish to donate organ(s) or tissue after death, complete the attached donor card and KEEP IT WITH YOUR MANITOBA HEALTH REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE OR DRIVER'S LICENCE SO IT IS VISIBLE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND HOSPITAL OFFICIALS.

IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS YOUR DECISION WITH YOUR FAMILY TO ENSURE YOUR WISHES ARE FULFILLED.

For more information on organ and tissue donation, please contact one of the Human Tissue Gift Agencies listed below:

Transplant Manitoba-Gift of Life Program **204-787-1897**

Tissue Bank Manitoba **204-940-1750**

Lions Eye Bank of Manitoba and
Northwest Ontario Inc. **204-788-8419**

(R-09/09)

