

Organ and Tissue Donation

Honoring the Donation Process Through Service and Compassion

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Compassion is the foundation that all discussions about organ and tissue donation rest upon.



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DONATE ORGAN LIFE

About Gift of Hope

- Federally designated not-for-profit
- Serves 12 million people in Illinois and northwest Indiana
- Coordinates with 180 hospitals
- Works with 9 transplant centers
- Provides professional and public education
- Provides ongoing support for donor families



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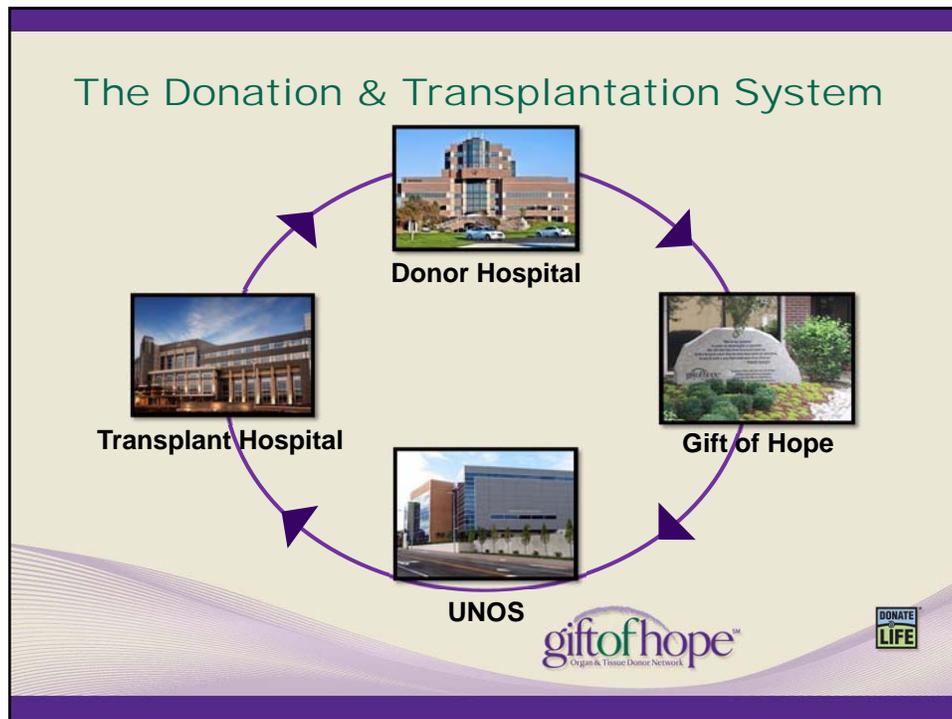


Regulatory Support for Donation

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- Donor Registries

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Donation After Brain Death

- Neurological exam consistent with brain death
- Brain death declared by hospital physician
- Organs tested, placed for transplant
- Patient transferred to hospital, remains on ventilator with intact heart rate and blood pressure until organs recovered

Donation After Circulatory Death

- Neurological exam *not* consistent with brain death; withdrawal of life-sustaining therapies planned
- Organs tested, placed for transplant
- Life-sustaining therapies withdrawn, comfort care ordered by hospital physician
- Organs recovered in hospital OR after circulatory death declared by hospital physician



The Organ Donation Process

Maintaining donation opportunity

Referral and evaluation

Dispatch to hospital

Family discussion, donor authorization

Donor management and organ placement

Organ recovery



Identification and Referral

Maintaining donation opportunity

Continue treatment

- Maintain hemodynamic stability to ensure that donation remains an option

Timely referrals and evaluation

Make the referral: Call 800/545-GIFT (4438)

- Within one hour of identifying ventilator-dependent patient with non-survivable illness, neurologic injury
- Immediately if patient loses any neurological reflexes
- Immediately if the removal of life-sustaining care—including pressor support—is being considered and death is likely to occur



Plan of Care and Donor Authorization

Dispatch to hospital

Participate in patient care conference

- Care providers, Gift of Hope discuss plan of care when organ donation is an option

Confirm patient's registry status

- Gift of Hope determines if patient in Illinois Organ/Tissue Donor Registry

Family discussion, donor authorization

Ensure effective request

- Gift of Hope, hospital professionals collaborate to identify most effective approach for discussing donation with family



Misconceptions

**“If I am a registered organ donor,
the hospital staff won't work as hard to save my life.”**

FACT: When you go to the hospital for treatment, doctors focus on saving your life — not somebody else's.



Misconceptions

**“An open-casket funeral isn't an option for people
who have donated organs or tissue.”**

FACT: Organ and tissue donation doesn't interfere with having an open-casket funeral.



Misconceptions

“I’m too old and not in the best of health. Nobody would want my organs or tissue.”

FACT: There's no defined cutoff age for donating organs.



Misconceptions

“Rich and famous people go to the top of the list when they need a donor organ.”

FACT: Organs are allocated based on the recipient's blood type, body size, medical urgency, length of time on the waiting list and proximity to transplant center, not their social or financial status.



Misconceptions

“Organ donation is against my religion.”

FACT: Most Religions support organ and tissue donation as one of the highest expressions of compassion & generosity.



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Recovery and Case Completion

Donor management and organ placement

Assist with donor care

- Work with Gift of Hope to evaluate organ viability/function and optimize organ function

Organ recovery

Provide a collaborative environment

- Organ recovery takes place in the OR
- Surgical teams from accepting transplant centers arrive and complete organ recovery

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Care and Respect of the Organ Donor

Removal of organs and tissue carried out with the utmost care and respect

Gift of Hope does what it can to honor religious traditions and family wishes



Our Vision

“That every opportunity for organ and tissue donation is successful.”



Honoring Jermaine Cullum Jr.



Charter for Compassion

The principle of compassion lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, calling us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves.

Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the center of our world and put another there and to honor the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect.

