



Brain Death vs Circulatory Death

DONATION AFTER BRAIN DEATH

DONATION AFTER CIRCULATORY DEATH

INJURY

Neurologic injury from trauma, cerebral vascular accident, anoxic event, other ventilator-dependent event

Severe injury from trauma, cerebral vascular accident, anoxic event, other ventilator-dependent event

CLINICAL TRIGGERS MET

Yes
To preserve potential for donation, refer all patients meeting triggers within one hour: **800-247-4273**

Yes
To preserve potential for donation, refer all ventilator-dependent patients prior to family discussion of withdrawal of support: **800-247-4273**

BRAIN DEATH CRITERIA MET

Yes — Clinical exam and additional confirmatory testing, if needed

No — Some brain stem reflexes remain

PROGNOSIS

Ventilator dependent
Diagnosis=brain death

Poor prognosis for recovery from injury or illness; ventilator dependent

ACTION

1. Brain death declared
2. After BD declaration, collaborative preparation by LifeSource and hospital for donation approach and family support
3. Authorization obtained or donor designation honored
4. Patient on ventilator until organs recovered
5. Heart, lungs, liver, pancreas, kidneys and intestines can be recovered

1. Family elect to withdraw ventilator support
2. Collaborative preparation by LifeSource and hospital for donation approach and family support
3. Authorization obtained or donor designation honored
4. Withdrawal of support in the operating room or designated area
5. Circulatory death declared
6. Organs recovered after minimum 5-minute waiting period of non-perfusing rhythm
7. Kidneys and liver commonly recovered. Heart, lungs and pancreas can also be recovered