

HOW ORGAN DONATION WORKS



1 Patient admitted to the hospital

To preserve potential for donation, all patients meeting triggers must be referred within **ONE HOUR**:

Ventilator dependent patients with a neurological injury or non-survivable illness AND:

- Loss of two or more brain stem reflexes
- or
- Prior to ANY end-of-life conversation
- or
- Anticipated withdraw of life-sustaining support

Family mentions donation or:
Cardiac death.



2 Referral received

hours-days from admission

Referral received by Clinical Resource Supervisor (CRS)

All vented referrals are received and evaluated at LS office by RNs/RTs/NREMT with extensive experience and training. Once a referral is evaluated through medical record review and determined to meet certain triggers, staff may respond onsite for further evaluation.

Hours 1-2

4 Onsite response

Donation Coordinators (DCs), Family Support Coordinators (FSCs), and CHCs respond onsite

DCs/FSCs/CHCs respond onsite, huddle with hospital staff to determine donation potential, and meet with family when appropriate.



3 Non-survivable injuries

Patient appears brain dead or patient's family begins end-of-life planning.



5 LifeSource meets with family

LifeSource talks with the donor's family to discuss the donation process



6 Donation is authorized

If the person did not register as a donor during their lifetime, their next of kin is asked to make a decision on their behalf

Hours 12-36

8 Organ allocation

DCs follow strict policies to most safely and appropriately match the donor with potential recipients

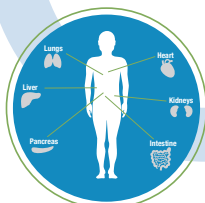
Once all applicable data has been gathered, it is entered into an online database that matches donors with recipients based on need, distance, and antigen matching.



7 Donor management & evaluation

DCs collaborate with Advanced Practice DCs (APDCs) and CRS to determine which organs are suitable for transplant

If a donor is declared BD, LS staff orders imaging, blood testing, and medications to evaluate and optimize organ function. If patient is a DCD candidate, hospital staff continues management, with LifeSource collaboration.



9 Recovery of organs



10 Post recovery

Donor will be released to the FH or ME. If they wish, families receive a phone call immediately post recovery with ages and genders of recipients and a letter 6 weeks later. Families also receive support through the Donor Family Aftercare Program in the weeks, months and years following the death of their loved one.