DONOR CARE UNIT COLLABORATION

Julie Heimbach, MD
Randy Mielke, MD

September 13, 2023
Julie Heimbach, MD
Medical Director, Mayo Clinic Transplant Center
Randy Mielke, MD
Medical Director, Donor Care Unit
Donor Care Units (DCUs)

DCUs are Not New
- Mid-America Transplant in St. Louis, MO: Established 2001
- Different Models Nationwide:
  - OPO Operated
  - Hospital Based

Establishment of DCUs Recommended
- 2022 NASEM Report recommends establishment of DCUs to:
  - Better serve donor families
  - Increase cost-effectiveness
  - Foster innovation in organ rehabilitation and donor intervention research

Staffing
- Dedicated beds for donors in a dedicated space
- Operating room space with trained staff, specifically for organ procurement surgery
  - Beside care by hospital staff
  - Donor management staffed by OPO

Require the establishment and use of a donor care unit for each organ procurement organization.

(Recommendation 11)
Improving Outcomes

Organ Donor Recovery Performed at an Organ Procurement Organization-Based Facility Is an Effective Way to Minimize Organ Recovery Costs and Increase Organ Yield

Majella Doyle 1, Vijay Subramanian 2, Neeta Vachharajani 2, Kelly Collins 2, Jason R Wellen 2, Emily Stahlschmidt 3, Diane Brockmeier 3, Jason Coleman 3, Dean Kappel 3, William C Chapman 2

Affiliations + expand
PMID: 26947113 DOI: 10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2015.12.032

Studies* have shown that Organ Recovery Centers:

- Reduce the time spent between organ recovery and transplantation;
- Improve outcomes for transplant recipients;
- Increase the average number of organs recovered from each donor;
- Reduce the overall costs associated with organ recovery;
- Reduce donor operating room delays at the originating hospital; and
- Reduce errors and increase quality in the organ recovery process.

FREE STANDING MODEL
ADOPTED IN 11 CITIES ACROSS THE U.S.

- PORTLAND
- SALT LAKE CITY
- SAN FRANCISCO
- LOS ANGELES
- DENVER
- *KANSAS CITY
- CLEVELAND
- PITTSBURGH
- ANN ARBOR
- NEW YORK CITY
- NEW ORLEANS
- SAN ANTONIO
- DALLAS
- JACKSON
- BIRMINGHAM
- ATLANTA
- NASHVILLE
- INDIANAPOLIS
- ST. LOUIS
- *PHILADELPHIA
- CHARLESTON

Free Standing
Transplant Center Based
* Under Consideration: Transplant Center Based
Community Based
* Under Construction
OVERVIEW

Where will these DCUs be?

- Donation process starts at hospital of origin:
  - Referral to LifeSource, brain death declaration, family care, honor walks and other key tenets of Hospital Donation Program.
  - Donation completed at DCU:
    - Donor optimization, coordination, allocation process (based on original hospital location) and organ procurement will occur at the DCU.

What will the process look like?

When will the transfer of donors to DCUs begin?

September 2023
DCU Transfers by Hospital

- Mayo Clinic Rochester: 22 Organ Donors
- Universit of Minnesota: 16 Organ Donors

- Altru Health: 2
- Trinity Health: 3
- CHI St. Alexius Health: 4
- Sanford Health: 1
- Essentia Health: 3
- St. Mary’s Duluth: 4
- Sanford Health Brainerd: 2
- St. Luke’s: 1
- grandItasca: 1
- Mayo Clinic Mankato: 2
- Avera Heart Hospital: 1
- Avera Queen of Peace: 1
- Avera: 8
- Monument Health: 8
- Regions Hospital: 21
- Regions Hospital Methodist: 14
- North Memorial: 7
- CentraCare: 19
- Allina Health: 4
- Fairview Southdale: 9
- Fairview Ridge Hospital: 2
- Maple Grove Hospital: 1
- Regions Hospital St. John’s: 9
- Regions Hospital St. Paul: 2
- Regions Hospital St. Cloud: 19
- Allina Health: 4
- United Hospital: 4
KEY BENEFITS

Demonstrated, sustainable increase in organs transplanted per donor.

DCU Benefits

1. Consistency
2. Maximize Donation
3. Minimize Hospital Resource Utilization
4. Eliminate Delays
5. Improve Satisfaction
6. Research & Technology

11
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Reference FAQ / Donor Care Unit Resource Guide for Hospitals
- What further questions would you like to discuss?
- What is current awareness and understanding of donor care unit plans?
- What additional groups or individuals would it be useful for us to connect with?
- What steps are needed prior to first transfer (communications, access to CareEverywhere)?