

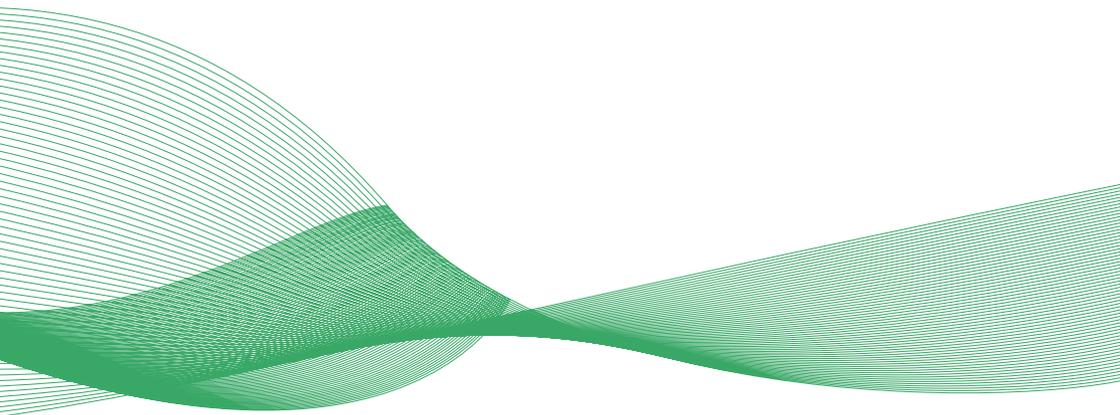
ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION



الهيئة الوطنية لتهب وزرع الأعضاء والأنسجة البشرية
National Organization for Organ & Tissue Donation & Transplantation

**DID YOU THINK ABOUT IT?
DID YOU DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR FAMILY,
YOUR FRIENDS, AND YOUR PARENTS?**

DO IT NOW!



QUESTIONS TO ASK
Answers to exchange



WHO NEEDS ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION?

Any patient suffering from terminal organ failure requires organ transplantation. He is defined as a potential recipient.

HOW CAN THE POTENTIAL RECIPIENT RECEIVE THE NEEDED ORGAN?

Any potential recipient should undergo a pre-transplant work-up and be registered on the waiting list at the national organization for organ and tissue donation and transplantation (NOD-Lb).

Then, the waiting period starts. NOD-Lb and the hospital should be able to reach the potential recipient at any time (24h/24h). The patient has to be always ready and his file updated regularly by his transplant surgeon and his treating physician.

CAN ORGANS BE STORED IN A BANK?

Organs cannot be stored, only tissues can. Organs should be transplanted within a short time.

WHY SHOULD I DISCUSS MY WILL WITH MY FAMILY?

The Donor Card will facilitate the procedures for deceased organ donation.

You do not have, however, to be carrying a card to become a donor. The Lebanese law adopts the opting-out policy i.e. a person expresses her/his will to donate while alive. It leaves the final decision to the family.

But put yourself in the place of the family. The decision is not that easy. That is why it is very important to discuss your wish with your families and your friends...

It is obvious that talking about death or signing a donation card will not hasten your death.

CAN ANYBODY SIGN UP A DONATION CARD?

1. No, you are required to be 18 years or older.
2. This does NOT mean that people younger than 18 cannot tell their family what they would like to do and ask them to sign up on their behalf.

Remember the role of your family is essential to support your decision because they will be here to say YES for you.

1. If you want that your will be done, you have to discuss your decision with your family.
2. They will say YES on your behalf.
3. If you have not done it, please DO IT NOW.

CAN AN ELDERLY PERSON DONATE HIS ORGANS?

An age limit of 65 years is put for the heart. There is otherwise no age limit.

The organs are evaluated individually and accepted when their function is adequate regardless of the age of the patient.

CAN YOU CHOOSE WHAT ORGANS TO DONATE?

Yes. You can indicate your choice on your donor card and make sure your family is informed.



WILL DOCTORS TRY TO SAVE MY LIFE FIRST?

Yes! Doctors will do everything in their power to treat each patient – their number one priority is saving YOUR life.

The doctors involved in treating you, are not the same doctors involved in the transplant process.

Organ and tissue donation can be pursued ONLY AFTER all efforts to save your life have failed, after you are declared dead and after your family has been consulted.

Donation is only an option after death.

To avoid any “undue pressure” the physicians responsible of the diagnosis of “Brain Death” have nothing to do with transplantation.

WHAT DO RELIGIONS SAY ABOUT DONATION?

- There are many different religions but all major religions support organ donation and transplantation.
- They consider organ donation as a generous and compassionate act.
- They leave it up to the individual to decide.
- All of them have the same principles: Love, Generosity and Solidarity

If you have a question about your religion, please talk with knowledgeable people you trust.



HOW IS THE BODY OF THE DONOR RESTITUTED TO THE FAMILY?

Organ retrieval is a surgical procedure performed in the operating room, with all the necessary precautions that accompany any surgical act. The incisions are sutured back carefully and recovered with dressings. The removed corneas are similar to lenses, the eyes remain intact. Following surgery, the body is dressed up and given back to the family, who can plan the burial ceremony according to the donor's wishes.

IS THERE A COST TO ME OR TO MY FAMILY?

NO, there are no costs involved. The donor's family does not incur any charges.

Organ and tissue donation is completely free.

The Ministry of Health and NOD-Lb cover all the expenses.

CAN THE DONOR FAMILY GET IN TOUCH WITH THE PERSONS THAT HAVE BEEN TRANSPLANTED?

No! It is forbidden by law. It is a worldwide rule, to avoid future psychological and social problems. Organ donation is anonymous and unconditioned. This means that the donor cannot be informed of the name of the recipients. The same applies to the recipients who will not be informed of the name of their donor. This anonymity helps both the donor's family to go through their grief process, and the recipients who need to depersonalize their graft, and accept it.

DO YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION?

Reach NOD-Lb at info@nootdt.org or 05-955902/3

A close-up photograph of a pair of hands, palms up, holding a vibrant green awareness ribbon. The ribbon is tied in a loop, symbolizing support and care. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color.

**MANY LIVES
DEPEND
ON YOUR
DECISION!**

WHO IS NOD-LB?

NOD-Lb is a governmental organization working under the umbrella of the Minister of Health (MOH). It was created by a ministerial decree in 1999. The Lebanese Code of Medical Ethics (2012) designated NOD-Lb as the only official body responsible of supervising all organs, tissues and cells donation and transplantation activities in Lebanon.

NOD-Lb supervises the application of the Lebanese donation and transplantation system for organs, tissues and human cells in the Lebanese hospitals. NOD-Lb is responsible to develop a continuous education for health professionals and to promote organ and tissue donation to the general public.

NOD-Lb makes sure that every patient receives the treatment he needs, provided that safety, medical ethics and equity are respected.

Being the authority of reference it has to maintain a high expertise in all subjects related to organ donation and transplantation.

In the subject of organ and tissue donation and transplantation, NOD-Lb has to:

1. Maintain the national waiting list and the national registry of donation and transplantation.
2. Update the registry of potential donors (donation card)
3. Supervise and coordinate all organ and tissues procurement and allocation in Lebanon.
4. Guarantee that in the allocation of organs and tissues, the respect of safety, medical ethics and equity are respected.
5. Audit and evaluate the medical activities

**TOGETHER WE
ARE RESPONSIBLE
OF THE CHANGE
TO REACH SELF
SUFFICIENCY AND
SAVE AS MANY
LIVES AS WE CAN.**



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