



Can I agree to donate some organs and not others?

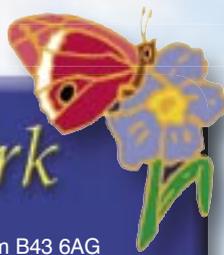
Yes, if that is your wish and you feel it would meet the wishes of your loved one if they had not made a clear decision about their wishes.

Who will receive the organs or tissue?

The organ or tissue recipient will be someone from the transplant waiting list who is in greatest need, and who is a good match for your loved ones organs or tissue.

A good match will depend on blood group, tissue type, age and other medical factors.

You may receive information on the recipients if you wish. The transplant co-ordinator will contact you following the transplant with this and other information.



Donor Family Network

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Registered charity number: 1098781



Organ & Tissue Donation

What can be donated?

At present, in the UK, the following organs and tissues can be donated for transplant:

Liver

Kidney

Liver & kidney

Kidney & pancreas

Heart

Heart & lungs

Lung(s)

Small bowel

Skin

Heart valves

Bone

Corneas

Tendons

**Costal cartilage
(part of ribs) &
iliac crest
(part of pelvis)**

**Meniscus
(part of knee joint)**



Who carries out the operation to retrieve the organs and tissue?

One or two teams of surgeons will retrieve the organs to be transplanted. The transplant co-ordinator will remain with the patient in theatre. The operation is carried out with great care and respect for the donor. Tissue is usually retrieved the following day.

Will the body be disfigured?

No, but there will be a wound. This will be carefully stitched and covered by a dressing as well as a gown or clothes.

You will then be able to see your loved one.

The transplant co-ordinator will give you more details if required.



How long does the operation take?

The retrieval operation takes approximately four to six hours.

You may wish to go home during this time. You may want to stay at the hospital, possibly visiting the hospital chapel or prayer room.





Can I spend time with my loved one?

You will be able to spend time with your loved one on intensive care before the retrieval operation.

Can I see my loved one's body?

You may see your loved one's body after the operation in the chapel or mortuary viewing room. In some hospitals you may be invited to help perform the last offices - the washing and dressing of your loved one's body. You may wish for your loved one to return to the Intensive Care Unit or be dressed in their own clothes at this point. The co-ordinator may also take a lock of hair, hand and footprints for you. You may wish to think about these options and discuss them with your co-ordinator.



Can I have a blessing or prayers said on the ward?

You may wish your loved one to receive a ceremony of blessing, the sacrament of the sick or for prayers to be said. This can be arranged by the hospital chaplaincy or you may contact your own minister or chaplain.