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100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

Who Can Donate Organs And Tissues?

By News Canada

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by: News Canada

(NC)–Everyone is a potential organ and tissue donor. Typically, organ donors are healthy people who have suffered an irreversible brain injury (most often due to a motor vehicle accident), or a brain hemorrhage resulting in brain death. The health of the donor and his organs and tissues, not his or her age, is what the transplant surgeon considers. The organs and tissues used for transplantation cannot have sustained any damage at the time of death. Brain death means that the brain is no longer functioning and can never recover, but vital organs and tissues can be supported artificially for a limited time and saved for possible transplantation.

Tissues don't require the same special conditions as organs to survive, so tissue donation is possible even after the heart and lungs have stopped working.

Why decide to be an organ and tissue donor?

Donors tell us that their primary motivation for deciding to become an organ or tissue donor is to help someone else. One donor can save or improve the lives of many other people if a variety of different organs and tissues are used. What better way is there to preserve the memory of a loved one who has died prematurely?

Which organs and tissues can be donated?

Organs that can be donated include the kidneys, heart, lungs, liver, pancreas, stomach and bowel. These organs can be used alone or in combination (heart/

lung, liver/kidney, or pancreas/kidney). Transplantation is performed as quickly as possible after brain death, preferably within eight hours for the liver and pancreas, four hours for the heart, and two hours for the combined heart/lung.

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Tissues require less blood supply than organs and are therefore more easily preserved, frozen and stored for future use. Corneas, bone, skin, heart valves and veins are among the tissues that can be stored for months, and even, in some cases, for years.

For more information on organ and tissue donation and how you can donate, visit

www.healthcanada.ca/organandtissue

on the Internet.

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How Do I Become An Organ Donor?

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(NC)—In some provinces you must register with an Organ Donor Registry, in others you can indicate consent on your Health Card or Driver's License. For details on the province or territory in which you live, visit www.healthcanada.ca/organandtissue

on the Internet.

Does my signature on a donor registration card or consent form guarantee that my organs will be used

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for transplantation?

No, your signature symbolises your willingness to donate. However, except in British Columbia, the ultimate decision rests with your family. Without the consent of your loved ones, doctors will not harvest your organs or tissues. So, it's important to make sure your family is aware of your intention to be an organ donor so that they can support your decision.

Is there an age limit for organ donation?

No, there is no age limit for organ donation. In fact, everyone, regardless of age, should consider being a potential donor. The oldest liver donor on record was 92. Corneas from a 102 year-old woman gave sight to someone else. The quality of the organ rather than its chronological age determines whether it can be transplanted.

Can I designate specific organs for donation?

Yes. In most provinces you have the choice of donating all organs and tissues or only specific ones. Again, it is important that you share the details of your decision with your family.

Can I designate who should receive my organs?

No, not unless you have a close blood relative in immediate need. Normally, your gift of organs and tissues is equally available to all potential recipients. Decisions are made on the basis of suitability and length of time on the list.

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