

STANDARDIZED ORGAN DONATION PROCEDURE

IN REFERENCE TO ARTICLE 204.1 (LSSSS)

Hospital with a liaison/resource nurse assigned to organ donation

Patient with a prognosis of impending death

1 IDENTIFICATION

ACTIVE MEDICAL TREATMENT

The patient satisfies the criteria for being a potential organ donor:

- **A person of any age**
- **Has experienced a severe neurological insult** (post-resuscitation, cerebral anoxia, CVA, cerebral haemorrhage, encephalopathy, traumatic brain injury, Glasgow score < 5 ...)
- **Requires mechanical ventilation**

Contact the **liaison/resource nurse of your hospital** to verify the donor's eligibility

Depending on the situation, a decision is made to continue or stop active medical treatment

Yes No

Diagnosis of neurological determination of death (NDD)
Potential donor (NDD)

Severe and irreversible prognosis
Consider withdrawing life-sustaining therapy (WLST)
Potential donor for donation after cardiocirculatory death (DCD)

The patient's condition improves
Continuation of active medical treatment

Depending on the situation, continue or stop medical treatment

End of the referral to Transplant Québec

2 REFERRAL

PRIOR TO OFFERING THE OPTION OF ORGAN DONATION TO THE FAMILY

The liaison/resource nurse assigned to organ donation contact Transplant Québec

to verify the patient's inscription in the registries of the RAMQ and the Chambre des notaires du Québec

DO NOT OFFER THE OPTION OF DONATION TO THE FAMILY BEFORE STEP 4

3 COMMUNICATION OF DIAGNOSIS / PROGNOSIS

Announce and explain the poor and irreversible prognosis

Discuss withdrawing life-sustaining therapies (WLST)

Provide the time necessary to absorb the information

Ensure that the family understands the prognosis
Be prepared to repeat the information as often as needed

- Provide a quiet and private space
- Be empathic and attentive to the family's needs
- Ensure that family support personnel are present
- Use of visual aids (i.e. brain scan)

4 OFFER / TEAM APPROACH

PRESENT THE OPTION OF ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

Ask the family to respond based on the **KNOWN** expressed wishes of the patient as indicated by

- the inscription(s) in the RAMQ and the Chambre des notaires du Québec registries **OR**
- the signature on the back of the health insurance card **OR**
- a prior verbal consent

OR if the wishes are **NOT KNOWN**, have the family decide by considering the person's values and beliefs

When the organ donor is also a tissue donor, Transplant Québec will communicate with Héma-Québec.

Offer to involve the Transplant Québec coordinator to answer any questions the family might have

Allow sufficient time for a period of reflection
Be attentive to the family's needs, answer questions and address concerns

Ascertain the family's decision

Communicate the family's decision to Transplant Québec

Consent

Refusal

Continue to provide family support

End-of-life care

5 EVALUATION, ELIGIBILITY AND PROCUREMENT

CONTINUE DONOR MANAGEMENT

Provide all available information concerning the donor to the Transplant Québec coordinator

Begin the donor evaluation and eligibility phase in collaboration with the medical team and the Transplant Québec coordinator

NDD

Diagnosis of neurological determination of death completed by 2 physicians

Transfer to the operating room*

Organ procurement

DCD

Transfer to the operating room

WLST and end-of-life care

Diagnosis of death by cardiocirculatory criteria completed by 2 physicians

Organ procurement

Death does not occur

Continue end-of-life care

* For hospitals that do not carry out procurements: Depending on the situation, the donor will be transferred to a procurement center as soon as possible.

Reference tools:

www.transplantquebec.ca and the following documents (available upon request at info@transplantquebec.ca):

Trousse Pensez don (can be found in the intensive care units and the emergency departments) and pocket size donor guideline card



TRANSPLANT QUÉBEC

Organ donation, together for life.



Association des conseils des médecins, dentistes et pharmaciens du Québec

aqesss

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