



DID YOU KNOW?

Organ donation in a medical aid in dying context (MAID)

1. Only four countries in the world practice organ donation in a MAID context, notably Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada, and more recently, Spain.
2. The first cases of organ donation were performed in Quebec at the end of 2017, at the request of people who had reached the end of their lives. This milestone came two years after the entry into force of the *Act Respecting End-of-Life Care*, which gives Quebecers recourse to MAID.
3. The number of donors in a MAID context accounted for close to 15% of the total number of organ donors across Quebec in 2022.
4. Close to 85% of donors in a MAID context received a primary diagnosis of neurodegenerative or neurological disease.
5. All the people whose application for MAID has been formally approved and in whom an absence of metastatic cancer has been confirmed, can be eligible for organ donation.
6. The organ donation process begins only when the person receives confirmation of their eligibility for MAID. Once the application for MAID has been approved and formalized, the person meets with the care team for purposes of informing them whether or not it will be possible for them to become organ donors after death. The objective is to provide all the information necessary for the person to give their free and informed consent.
7. In a MAID context, organ donation cannot be considered if the person does not wish to inform their family members of their intention to receive MAID.
8. Once the person consents to organ donation, medical examinations must be performed to determine whether they are eligible to become an organ donor.
9. The organs that can be transplanted include the lungs, kidneys, liver and pancreas.
10. When signing the organ procurement consent form, the person can decide which organs and tissues can be donated.
11. In certain cases, organ donation after death is not possible for medical reasons.
12. The person has the right, at any time or moment during the process, to withdraw their consent to organ donation.
13. The organ donation process in no way prevents a person from having recourse to MAID, nor does it interfere with or slow down the process initiated in that regard.
14. In a MAID context, organ donation lends meaning to the end of life among a certain number of the people concerned.