

The Nurse's Role in the Donation Process:

The Impact

One organ donor can save 8 lives. One tissue donor can restore health to over 50 others.

Nationwide over 122,000 people are in need of a lifesaving transplant.

Donation is a unique and rare gift. Your support makes this life changing gift possible.



Saving Lives Through Organ Donation

Referral Triggers (call required within 1 hour)

Any **ventilator** dependent patient meeting one of the following triggers:

- GCS of 5 or less
- Absence of 2 or more neuro reflexes (i.e. no cough, no gag, no corneals, no response to pain etc.)
- Grave Prognosis/ Beginning discussions regarding withdrawal of ventilator support

Approach Process

As per hospital policy and federal regulations, NJ Sharing Network is the trained Designated Requestor and must be present for any donation discussion. NJ Sharing Network will work closely with the healthcare team to plan for any approach.

Two Pathways: Organ Recovery

- **Donation after Brain Death:** Testing includes a clinical examination, apnea test and confirmatory test. These patients remain on the ventilator while the identification of up to 8 recipients occurs. Reference your hospital's policy for more information on NJ regulations pertaining to death by neurological criteria.
- **Donation after Cardiac Death (DCD)** occurs after the decision for Palliative Extubation occurs. Withdrawal typically occurs in the operating room. If cardiac death occurs within 90 minutes vital organs can be recovered for transplant. NJ Sharing Network should be contacted if family meetings are occurring to discuss end of life decisions.

Healing Lives Through Tissue Donation

Tissue Referral Process

One tissue donor has the potential to enhance the lives of over 50 people. Every death must be referred within one hour to evaluate tissue donation options. A telephone screening to determine medical suitability will occur at the time of the referral. If the patient is a candidate, a copy of the chart may be requested to ensure transplant safety.

A hold will be placed on the body while NJ Sharing Network offers the family the opportunity to restore health, mobility and sight through bone, skin, heart valves and cornea donation.

NJ Sharing Network will initiate all donation discussions once medical suitability has been determined.

Family Support Services

Donor families are supported before, during and after the donation process. While on-site, families are offered a flag raising ceremony. A certificate is sent to the funeral home for display and a letter with information about who received their loved ones gifts is sent within a few weeks. NJ Sharing Network hosts many events throughout the year where donors are honored; 5K Celebration of Life, Remembrance Events, Quilt Unveilings and many more. The first name and last initial of every donor is displayed on our Wall of Remembrance at our headquarters for families to tour at any time.



Wall of Remembrance



5K Celebration of Life

Join our Mission

Register as a donor at www.NJSharingNetwork.org and share your decision with your family and friends.

Follow us on social media.



Participate in our many events to celebrate the gift of life including our 5K walk/run, now in 3 different locations: www.NJSharingNetwork.org/5K

Contact us anytime at (908) 516-5400
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www.NJSharingNetwork.org