## **Organ Donation FAQ's**

More than 100,000 people are waiting for a lifesaving transplant. Transplants rely on the generosity of organ and tissue donors, and there are not enough donors to meet the need. Learn more at NEDS.org.



# New England Donor Services

#### Who can be a donor?

People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential donors. Your medical condition at the time of death will determine what organs and tissues can be donated.

#### Does my religion support donation?

All major religions support donation as a final act of compassion and generosity.



#### Does registering as a donor change my patient care?

Your life always comes first! ER Doctors work hard to save every patient's life, but sometimes there is a complete and irreversible loss of brain function. The patient is declared clinically and legally dead. Only then is donation an option.

#### Who decides who gets a donated organ?

A national computer system and strict standards are in place to ensure ethical and fair distribution of organs. Organs are matched by blood and tissue typing, organ size, medical urgency, waiting time and geographic location.

#### How do I sign up to be a donor?

Register to be a donor @ **RegisterMe.org** and each time you renew your driver's license or state ID. Share your decision by talking about donation with family and loved ones.

## **Organ and Tissue Donation Stats**



More than 100,000 people are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants. Even the largest football stadium in the US could not fit the number of patients on the national transplant waiting list.



Every 8 minutes another person is added to the national transplant waiting list.



16 people a day die waiting for an organ transplant.



**1 out of 3** deceased donors is over the age of **50**.

### One donor can

- Save up to 8 lives through organ donation
- Give sight to 2 people through cornea donation
- Heal the lives of 75 people through tissue donation