

Understanding Research

The need for medical research grows daily. In becoming an organ and tissue donor, your loved one may have the opportunity to improve thousands more lives through research donation.

If you have consented to organ and/or tissue donation and your loved one's gift is unable to be shared for transplant, you may be able to share their organs and/or tissues for research and education. These gifts save countless lives around the world by providing insight into new medical treatments or cures for a variety of diseases.

What can be shared?

Different organs and tissues aid in the study of various diseases, including:

Heart

- Coronary artery disease
- Congestive heart failure
- Cardiovascular disease

Lungs

- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Cystic fibrosis
- Asthma
- Emphysema

Liver

- Hepatitis A, B and C
- Liver cancer
- Liver failure
- Drug therapy and metabolism

Pancreas

- Type I and type II diabetes

Kidneys

- Chronic kidney disease, kidney failure and cancer
- Dialysis
- Hypertension and diabetic effects on kidneys

Bone and Cartilage

- Bone injury and disease
- Osteoporosis and arthritis
- Knee injury

Arteries

- Arteriosclerosis
- Heart attack, especially in young adults

Eyes

- Blindness
- Effects of diabetes on the eyes