



## “Let Them Know” Organ and Tissue Donation

**Organ donation is a life-saving and life-transforming medical process.**

People from all walks of life depend on organ and tissue donations, regardless of race, origin, religion or language. A diverse range of religions support donation.

Organ and tissue donations happen quickly after death. The donor's body is always treated with dignity and respect and donation will not alter the physical appearance of the body.

People decide to become donors to help save or improve the lives of others. Giving the gift of life to another is the gift for life.

Whatever you decide about donation, the people close to you need to know your decision. And you need to know theirs in case one day you are asked to give the final OK.

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## Why should I become a donor?

A shortage of donors means that around 1600 people are on Australian organ transplant waiting lists. One organ and tissue donor can save or enhance the lives of ten or more people.

## Does my family need to know my donation wishes?

If the situation arises, the family will be asked to give their consent for organ and/or tissue donation to proceed. The request will only be made by trained health professionals.

Registering to be an organ and tissue donor is not enough—your family will still be asked to give consent.

The most important thing that helps a family confirm a loved one's wishes one day is asking and knowing those wishes today.

## Which organs can be donated?

In Australia, people can donate the following:

- ♥ Organs – including kidneys, heart, lungs, liver and pancreas
- ♥ Tissue – including heart valves, bone tissue, skin, eye and pancreas tissue.

**For more information visit [www.donatelife.gov.au](http://www.donatelife.gov.au)**

This project is sponsored by:



**Australian Government**  
**Organ and Tissue Authority**

