

6 MYTHS

KEEPING YOU FROM BECOMING AN ORGAN DONOR



MYTH 1: Hospital staff members don't work as hard to save your life if you're an organ donor.

When you go to the hospital for treatment, all staff members are focused on saving your life, not somebody else's. You'll be seen by a medical team whose specialty most closely matches your particular emergency.

MYTH 2: I have health issues. No one will want my organs.

People with diabetes, heart disease, cancer, hepatitis and even HIV have saved lives through organ and tissue donation. Virtually anyone can donate. Don't assume you're not a suitable donor. Your physician can tell you more.



MYTH 3: I'm too old to be a donor.

No one is ever too old or too young to give the gift of life. Once consent is given, the decision to transplant organs or tissue is based on specific medical criteria, not age.

MYTH 4: Families of donors are charged for the cost of their loved ones' donations.

There is no cost to the donor or their family for organ or tissue donation.



MYTH 5: Organ and tissue donation is against my religion.

All major religions support organ and tissue donation as the ultimate act of charity. If you have questions about your faith's views on donation, consult your religious leader.

MYTH 6: Rich and powerful people move to the front of the line when they need a transplant.

It may seem that way because their stories make the news, but wealth and celebrity status is never a factor. The matching of organs and recipients is coordinated through the United Network of Organ Sharing, based strictly on medical criteria to ensure the organ goes to the person who needs it most.



SOURCE

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