



The organ donation journey

- 1 Blood tests
- 2 Medical and social history questionnaire
- 3 Medical tests
- 4 Determine organ transplant recipients
- 5 Operating room scheduled for organ recovery
- 6 Organ recovery team arrives and can meet with patient's family
- 7 Patient family spends final moments with patient
- 8 Patient taken to operating room
- 9 Surgical team holds moment of silence to honor donor
- 10 Organs are surgically recovered
- 11 Organs are transported to transplant recipient hospital(s)
- 12 Tissue and eye recovery agencies coordinate the surgical recovery of these gifts
- 13 Patient is given to the care of the family's funeral home of choice
- 14 UW OTD contacts patient's family within 10-14 days regarding transplanted organs

Centralized Recovery Center (CRC)

If your loved one is being transferred to the CRC, these are the next steps in their donation journey:

- 6 MedFlight team arrives, meets with patient's care team, and can meet with patient's family
- 7 Patient family spends final moments with patient
- 8 Patient is transferred to Centralized Recovery Center via MedFlight ground or air
- 9 Patient taken to operating room
- 10 Surgical team holds moment of silence to honor donor
- 11 Organs are surgically recovered
- 12 Organs are transported to transplant recipient hospital(s)
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During the time your loved one is at the hospital you can reach UW Organ and Tissue Donation staff 24/7 at 608-720-6878. If no one answers, please call again as staff may be assisting other families.

Medical and social information

- Review medical chart to evaluate donation potential
- Blood typing and testing for infectious diseases (8-10 hours)
- Medical and social history: conversation between UW OTD staff and family member (45-90 minutes)

Matching organs to recipients

- A potential recipient's healthcare team is told there is a matching donor organ
- The potential recipient's healthcare team reviews many factors to decide if they will accept the organ for their recipient
- Healthcare teams may ask for more tests to ensure a successful transplant, for example a liver biopsy or bronchoscopy
- This process is managed by a team of professionals who work 24/7 to ensure it is done as quickly as possible, and with the best chance of successful transplant(s)

Organ recovery

- MedFlight is a critical care transport team. They provide the highest level of patient care when called to transport a patient to the CRC
- The Centralized Recovery Center team are specially trained to care for organ donor patients
- More than one surgical team, from anywhere in the US, may be involved in the recovery of organs for transplant
- Organs are recovered with the greatest respect using a high level of surgical expertise
- The organs are transported via ground or air to ensure timely and safe travel for the organs and recovery team(s)

Without the organ donor, there is no story, no hope, no transplant. But when there is an organ donor, life springs from death, sorrow turns to hope, and a terrible loss becomes a gift.

– United Network for Organ Sharing

Information for families going through the donation process: uwotd.org/donorfamily



**UW ORGAN AND
TISSUE DONATION**