The Human Tissue (Scotland) Act 2006

Join the NHS Organ Donor Register online:

www.organdonation.nhs.uk

Make your wishes about organ donation known
Any adult, or child aged 12 and over, who is able to make their own decisions can give permission for their organs or tissue to be donated.

Any decision you made before the Act came into force on 1 September 2006 will be respected. You don’t have to do anything if you have already made your wishes clear.

If you want to donate organs or tissue, this will be done in preference to any other requests which are made, for example leaving your body to medical science. It is always better to save lives.

A person’s own decision is the most important thing. A relative does not have the right to change this decision after the person has died.

Children under the age of 12 cannot give permission themselves. If a child under the age of 12 dies, only their parent or guardian can give permission for their organs or tissue to be donated.

Every year, hundreds of lives are saved with the help of donated organs, but many more people die while waiting for a transplant. The Human Tissue (Scotland) Act 2006 came into force to make sure that the rights of people who wish to donate their organs or tissue after they die are respected. This leaflet will help you understand what you need to do if you want to donate organs or tissue after you die.