Join the NHS Organ Donor Register online:

www.organdonation.nhs.uk

Make your wishes about organ donation known

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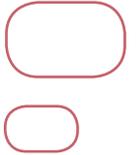
The Human Tissue (Scotland) Act 2006

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.

What rights do I have to donate my organs after I die?

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.

How do I tell people what I want?

If you want to donate your organs or tissue after you die, you can add your name to the NHS Organ Donor Register. Or let someone close to you know your wishes – simply telling someone counts as a form of permission under the Act.

For more information about organ donation, visit the NHS Organ Donation website (*www.organdonation.nhs.uk*) or phone the Organ Donor Line on *0300 123 23 23*.

For more information on the Human Tissue (Scotland) Act 2006, visit www.opsi.gov.uk