



Organ, tissue and eye donation becomes an option only after all lifesaving efforts have been exhausted and death has been declared.

If a patient meets clinical criteria, the hospital contacts its local organ procurement organization (OPO). The OPO determines medical suitability for donation and collaborates with the hospital to ensure the family is cared for and informed throughout the process.

If a donor is determined to be a candidate for organ donation, medical matching information including size, blood and tissue type is entered into a database to determine the most suitable candidate in need of a lifesaving transplant. Donated eyes and tissues don't require preliminary matching.

Organs, tissues and eyes are then recovered in a surgical environment by highly trained medical professionals. Organs must be transplanted into waiting patients in hospital transplant centers within hours of recovery. Corneal tissue recovery is also time sensitive—typically in under 12 hours—with transplantation happening within 72 hours. Donated tissue undergoes complex evaluation and is processed into many therapeutic forms for future surgeries, and can be transplanted even after lengthy preservation periods.

Choose to save and heal lives.
Learn more and register at DonateLifeWisconsin.org

