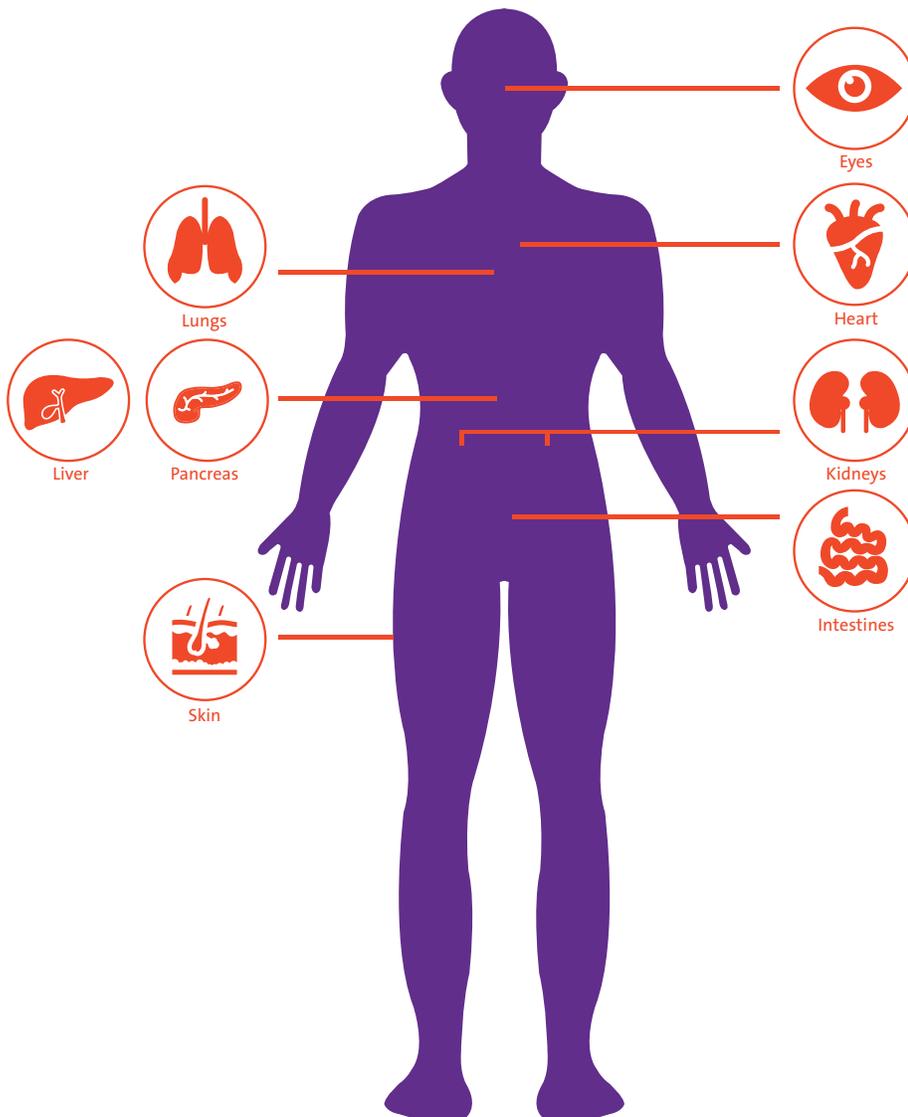




What you should know about being an organ donor

What organs and tissues can be donated?



One organ donor can save up to eight lives. One tissue donor can improve the lives of up to 50 people.

The wait

Nationally, most patients wait one to two years for an organ transplant. In New York state, most patients wait **three to five years**.

Every 10 minutes another person is added to the national transplant waiting list.

Every 18 hours someone in New York state dies waiting for an organ.

Myth	Truth
My doctor won't try as hard to save my life.	Saving your life is always the No. 1 priority. Organ donation is only considered when there is nothing more that can be done to save someone's life. The patient must be declared dead by a physician who, legally, is not affiliated with donation.
I won't be able to have a proper funeral or open casket.	When you donate your organs or tissue, it is done with the utmost care, dignity and respect. The body is never disfigured and donation does not delay any funeral arrangements.
I am too old or have a medical condition, so I can't be a donor.	People of all ages and medical histories can be considered for organ donation. The oldest donor on record was 96 years old! Your medical condition at the time of death will determine what organs and tissues can be donated.
My religion does not support organ donation.	Generally, all major religions support organ donation as a final act of compassion and generosity.
Rich or famous people on the waiting list get organs faster.	A national computer system matches donated organs to recipients. Some of the factors used in the matching process are blood type, time spent waiting, how sick the person is, and geographic location. Income and celebrity status are NEVER considered.
Somebody could take my organs and sell them.	Federal law prohibits buying and selling organs in the U.S. Violators can be punished with prison sentences and fines.

FAQ

Who can register as an organ donor?

In New York state, you can register to become an organ donor if you are 18 or older. Those aged 16 and 17 can register their consent to become an organ donor; however, their parents/guardians will be notified at the time of the potential donation and, if they wish, they can revoke the option.

What should I do after I register?

Share your decision with your family so they know your wishes.

What am I signing up for when I register?

When you register as an organ donor, you're authorizing donation of your organs if you die in circumstances that make donation possible. Generally, that means dying in a hospital and on artificial support. You will remain on your state's registry unless you opt out.

Can I specify what I want to donate?

When registering online, New York state gives you the option to choose which organs and tissues you donate.

Are there any costs to my family if I donate?

No. Your family pays for your medical care and funeral costs, but not for organ donation. Costs related to donation are paid by the recipient, usually through insurance, Medicare or Medicaid.



Sign up at
Registerme.org/Northwell