# **FAST FAQ**

TISSUES

• Bone

#### ORGANS

- Heart
- Lunas
- Liver
- Kidneys
- Pancreas
- Small Bowel
- Connective Sclera Tissue Whole Globe

**EYES** 

Cornea

- Heart Valves
- Vessels
- Adipose

• Skin

## WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

### **Transplant Only**

Every effort is made to transplant donated organs, tissues and eyes. However, a suitable recipient cannot always be identified.

### **Research Only**

Many studies are currently being performed on organs, tissues and eyes to better understand disease processes and treatment options.

### **Both Transplant and Research**

If transplantation is not an option, Iowa Donor Network and Iowa Lions Eye Bank place organs, tissues and eyes with research facilities.



## **EDUCATION** AND RESOURCES

Iowa Donor Network offers free continuing education and informational resources for Medical Examiners, Call (800) 831-4131 for more information.



# **OUR MISSION**

**Transforming Lives** 

**Through Organ and** 

**Tissue Donation.** 

# **YOUR ROLE IN REFERRING**

A Guide for **Medical Examiners** 

**DONOR NETWORK 24 HOUR REFERRAL LINE** 800.831.4131

## **Iowa Donor Registry**

To register as an organ, tissue and eye donor visit IowaDonorRegistry.org



www.lowaDonorNetwork.org

# **OUR COMMITMENT**

Iowa Donor Network (IDN) is committed to transforming lives through organ and tissue donation. However, we need your support. We depend on service providers across the state to help us carry out this mission.

Our organization works with physicians, nurses, social workers, EMS providers and other healthcare pofessionals in more than 100 hospitals across the state. Together, we provide support to families and save and enhance lives through organ and tissue donation. We work collaboratively with the Iowa Lions Eye Bank (ILEB).

IDN also partners with Medical Examiners, Emergency Medical Services professionals, Law Enforcement and Funeral Directors. Our staff appreciates their assistance in honoring a donor's wish and facilitating donation throughout Iowa.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." —Winston Churchill

## YOUR ROLE IS VITAL

Medical Examiners are crucial in the donation process. By referring ALL out-of-hospital deaths to IDN, you ensure that all Iowans are given the opportunity to leave a legacy through the gift of donation. Because the majority of suitable donors fall under Medical Examiner jurisdiction, your role in releasing for donation is one of the most important components in the transplantation process.

## DONATION DOES NOT AFFECT AUTOPSY

It is the position of the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) that the recovery of organs and/or tissues for transplantation can be accomplished in virtually all cases without detriment to evidence collection, postmortem examination, determination of cause and manner of death, or the conducting of criminal or civil legal proceedings.

Neither organ nor tissue recovery precludes the performance of a "complete autopsy." All components of examination may still be performed, although some may need to be performed in a different manner than usual.

## REFER ALL OUT-OF-HOSPITAL DEATHS

# 24 HOUR REFERRAL LINE 800.831.4131

Provide the following information to the IDN Communication Center, if known:

- Your name, agency, scene location, and a call back number.
- Decedent's name, date of birth and age/sex/race.
- Decedent's height and weight.
- Decedent's known medical conditions and current medications.
- Medical interventions provided.
- Decedent's time of death or last known time alive.
- Decedent's next of kin.
- Whether the medical examiner has jurisdiction.
- Funeral home name.

### PRE-AUTOPSY RECOVERY, WILL THE ME NEED:

- Blood? If so, how much?
- Vitreous? (Can be drawn by ILEB if eye donor)
- Photos?
- Heart remains returned for path report?
- Call with unusual findings?