



LifeGift Update

— Optimizing Organ Donation —

October 2020

The Tissue Issue!



The Aspects of Tissue Donation

Referral

WHO CAN BE REFERRED?

Every patient can be a potential tissue donor, and a tissue referral can come from any unit in the hospital. All referrals should be called into Lifegift within 60 mins after a patient reaches cardiac death. Please have the patients chart available when you call. This will be needed for the patient's demographic info and medical history.

Lifegift then contacts the patients legal next of kin, to obtain consent, if the patient is not a registered tissue donor. Social and medical history questions are also asked, to screen the patient for donation eligibility.

Tissue Recovery

The donor is then transported from the hospital or funeral home to Lifegifts onsite OR suites.

WHAT IS RECOVERED?

- Skin for skin grafts
- Muscle tendons for surgical repair
- Whole eyes or corneas for transplant
- Heart valves
- Saph/fem vein
- Nerves
- Descending Thoracic aorta
- Bones for surgical repair

More Info

Just one tissue donor can help save and enhance the lives of more than 200 people. There are over 1 million tissue transplant surgeries performed each year in the United States alone. In fact, it is estimated that every year, roughly 1 in 20 Americans will require some type of tissue transplant.