

Donation and Procurement of Organs, Tissue, and Eyes

**Policy
Effective Date
4/2024**

This Education is to inform the Medical Staff at all three BHC Hospitals of the new policy concerning organ, tissue and eye procurement.

This policy will go into effect upon the completion of the Medical Staff Education.

This policy provides instructions and responsibilities regarding the organ, tissue, eye donation, and procurement process of a deceased patient at Baptist Health Care Facilities.

Please see the Policy on the following pages for all the required information on organ, tissue and eye donation and procurement.



DONATION AND
PROCUREMENT OF ORGANS,
TISSUE, AND EYES
MAR 2024, REV. 1

Situation

This Education is to inform the Medical Staff at all three BHC Hospitals of the new policy concerning organ, tissue and eye procurement.

Background

The field of organ donation and transplantation is well regulated. Both state and federal laws and regulations provide a safe and fair system for allocation, distribution, and transplantation of donated organs.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is the federal agency that oversees the organ transplant system in the United States.

These other agencies also play a part in the system:

[Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#)

[Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\)](#)

[Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#)

Assessment

This policy provides instructions and responsibilities regarding the organ, tissue, eye donation, and procurement process of a deceased patient at Baptist Health Care Facilities.

Recommendation

Please see the Policy on the following pages for all the required information on organ, tissue and eye donation and procurement.



POLICY AND PROCEDURE

TITLE: Donation and Procurement of Organs, Tissue, and Eyes

EFFECTIVE DATE: TBD

OWNER OF THIS DOCUMENT: VP Chief Nursing Officer

SCOPE: This document applies to all Workforce Members at Baptist Hospital, Gulf Breeze Hospital, and Jay Hospital.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To provide instructions and responsibilities regarding the organ, tissue, eye donation, and procurement process of a deceased patient.

Note:

This policy will go into effect upon the completion of the Medical Staff Education.

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DEFINITIONS:

Brain Death: In situations where respiratory and circulatory functions are maintained by artificial means of support so as to preclude a determination that these functions have ceased, the occurrence of death may be determined where there is the irreversible cessation of the functioning of the entire brain, including the brain stem.

Circulatory Death: Death by cessation of cardiopulmonary functions and irreversibility

Donor: An individual who makes an anatomical gift of all or part of his or her body.

Donor Document or Document of Gift: Any of the documents or mechanisms used in making an anatomical gift under applicable Florida law.

Eye Bank: An OPO entity that is accredited by the Eye Bank Association of America or otherwise regulated under federal or state law to engage in the retrieval, screening, testing, processing, storage, or distribution of human eye tissue.

Imminent Death: For purposes of referral for organ donation, imminent death shall be defined as:

- A ventilator dependent patient with a Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) of 5 or less, with the initiation of testing to determine brain death.
- Any patient where there is a plan for the withdrawal of ventilator support or other de-escalation of care that may preclude the patient's recorded donation directive or limit the family's donation options.

Organ Procurement Organization or "OPO": An entity that is designated as an Organ Procurement Organization by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services and that engages in the retrieval, screening, testing, processing, storage, or distribution of human organs, eyes or tissues. The OPOs that are applicable to Baptist Health Care hospitals are as follows:

- LifeQuest Organ Recovery Services

Donation and Procurement of Organs, Tissue, and Eyes



- Tissue Bank LifeNet of Florida
- Lions Eye Institute for Transplant and Research.

Procurement: Any retrieval, recovery, processing, storage, or distribution of human organs or tissues for transplantation, therapy, research, or education.

Team Members: Full, part time, and PRN employees of BHC.

Tissue Bank: An OPO entity that is accredited by the American Association of Tissue Banks or otherwise regulated under federal or state law to engage in the retrieval, screening, testing, processing, storage, or distribution of human tissue.

Workforce Members: Team Members, members of BHC subsidiaries'; medical staffs and allied health staffs (whether employed or independent), volunteers, students, and any employees or agents of independent contractors of BHC or its subsidiaries who are carrying out BHC business operations on BHC's behalf under the general direction of a Team Member.

POLICY:

1. Workforce Members shall make every effort to provide comfort and support to the family, regardless of their decision whether or not to donate organs.
2. The OPO shall be contacted in the following instances:
 - a. The death of a patient.
 - b. The imminent death of a patient as defined in this policy.
 - c. Patient's family initiates the discussion or ask questions regarding organ donation (regardless of the patient's clinical status).
3. The OPO shall determine the patient's medical suitability for organ, tissue, or eye procurements, as applicable.
4. Only an organ procurement coordinator (OPC) should approach the family or have a material discussion with the family about possible organ donation. Any team or medical staff member approached by a patient's family regarding organ donation shall refer the family to an OPC for answers to the family's questions.
5. The time and type of death shall be determined by medical staff or house supervisor according to the Declaration of Death policy who attend the Donor at the Donor's death. After death, the medical staff attending for the donor or requested consultants, may participate in, but may not obstruct, the procedures to preserve the Donor's organs or tissues. In a similar fashion, a House Supervisor may support efforts of the OPO regarding organ and tissue preservation, as requested.
 - a. These Practitioners may not participate in the procedures for removing or transplanting a donor's organs or tissues.

Donation and Procurement of Organs, Tissue, and Eyes



6. The OPO, or hospital medical staff members under the direction thereof, may perform any and all tests to evaluate the deceased as a potential Donor and any invasive procedures on the potential donor its organs and tissues. These procedures do not include the surgical removal of an organ or penetrating any body cavity specifically for the purpose of donation, until appropriate consent has been received, both from a donor's appropriate surrogate or proxy pursuant to Florida Statute and from the OPO
 - a. All reasonable additional expenses incurred in the procedures to preserve Donor's organs or tissues shall be reimbursed by the OPO.
 - b. NOTE: Jay Hospital does not have an intensive care unit (ICU) therefore potential organ donors are transferred to an appropriate facility. Eye and tissue procurement is performed at Jay Hospital.

PROCEDURE:

1. The death or Imminent Death of a patient shall be reported to the hospital's OPO by the house supervisor subject to the following:
 - a. In compliance with clinical triggers mutually defined by the hospital medical staff and the designated OPO and listed in the Imminent Death definition.
 - b. In compliance with the time requirements mutually agreed to by the hospital medical staff and the designated OPO (ideally within one (1) hour); and
 - c. For mechanically ventilated patients, prior to the withdrawal of life sustaining therapies, including medical or pharmacological support.
2. Organ Donation After Circulatory Death:
 - a. When determined by the OPO, donation after circulatory death may occur in the operating room, to attempt to procure the donor's organs immediately after circulatory death has been declared by a physician member of the medical staff in the operating room. Once circulatory death has been declared, all clinical procedures and orders for medication administration are to be conducted by members of the OPO.
 - b. All other instances of organ/tissue be subject to the following process.
 - c. The patient's nurse shall notify the house supervisor immediately upon the patient's death.
 - d. The house supervisor will notify the OPO, as soon as possible after the patient expires, preferably within one (1) hour. If the patient has a Donor Document, this document will serve as the consent form and secondary consent is not required. The patient's surrogate/proxy and family should be notified of the Donor Document by the OPO.
 - e. If the patient does not have a Donor Document, and after discussion with the OPO, the surrogate or proxy agrees to donation, the OPO representative will complete written consent form provided by the OPO and place it in the patient's medical record. The OPO is responsible for coordinating donation steps of care with the healthcare team and with the medical examiner.
 - f. The Tissue Bank will then determine suitability for tissue or eye donation.
 - i. If the OPO determines a patient is not suitable for tissue or eye donation, the house supervisor will document the referral and referral number on applicable

Donation and Procurement of Organs, Tissue, and Eyes



- g. Even when the patient has a Donor Document, only the OPC may approach the family/surrogate/proxy to discuss organ donation. This discussion may include members of the healthcare team as deemed appropriate and supportive by the OPC.
 - h. The representative of the OPO shall approach the next of kin with the option of organ donation at the time of brain death.
 - i. The OPC will make a determination of whether the patient is medically suitable for organ donation and will document the findings in the patient's medical record.
 - j. If the OPC determines that the patient is not suitable for organ donation, the OPC will notify the attending medical staff physician and immediate care team for determination of the plan of care. The patient should be referred to the tissue bank for evaluation of tissue/eye donation at the time of cardiac death as outlined above in tissue/eye donation section.
 - k. If the OPC determines that the patient is potentially suitable for organ donation, the OPC will communicate with the patient's attending medical staff physician and care providers to gather additional information and to discuss steps for proceeding.
 - l. It may be necessary for the OPC to notify the medical examiner (ME) and obtain permission from the ME prior to any organ/tissue retrieval.
 - m. The OPO shall contact the Tissue and Eye Bank if there is an agreement in place. Otherwise the hospital shall contact the tissue and eye bank also.
4. Medical Examiner Cases:
- a. The medical examiner shall be notified of deaths, as applicable. The house supervisor shall also notify the OPO and inform the coroner that the OPO has been contacted.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

Declaration of Death in Adults

REFERENCES/SOURCES:

Florida Statutes 2018: ss. 765.510-765.547 Anatomical Gifts

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network. (May 13, 2018). Policy Management: National Organ Transplant Act. Retrieved from <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/governance/policies/>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). (n.d.) Condition of Participation: Organ Procurement Organization, 42 CFR Part 486.

RESCISSION: Donation and Procurement of Organs, Tissue, and Eyes, effective September 2021, is hereby rescinded.

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You can find the 9 page “Organ Procurement Physician Order Set” in the Document Control Library on the Connect website for reference.

To complete the order set utilize AllScripts Order entry.

NOTE: ALL ORDERS WRITTEN OR CHECKED WILL BE FOLLOWED

Organ Procurement Physician Order Set

Transfer

Transfer Service- Reason: Change in Care Service/Care Provider Change of Level of Care: Intensive Care Service: LifeQuest Organ Recovery Services Other Information: Also change attending Provider to Unassigned, Physician

Code Status

Code Status-

Organs Evaluated for Transplant

Organs Evaluated for Transplant-

Precautions

General Precautions- Bleeding

Isolation

Isolation-

Notify Organ Procurement Coordinator

Notify OPC- if UOP < 100 or > 300 mL/hr

Notify OPC- if DMG (Donor Management Goals) protocol out of specified ranges

Notify OPC- if any abnormalities during physical assessment

Notify OPC- if blood glucose > 150 mg/dL


Vital Signs / Monitoring

Vital Signs- hourly

Practitioner Signature: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

For use at Baptist and Gulf Breeze Hospital
Organ Procurement Physician Order Set
PO-604 (10/22)

Patient Identification


PO