

# UNA SCELTA IN COMUNE

Esprimi la tua volontà sulla donazione di organi e tessuti



## GET INFORMED, DECIDE AND SIGN

**This Municipality, in partnership with the Regional organ and tissue donation procurement coordination agency has activated the registration of declaration of will regarding tissue and organ donation at the Civil Registry Office.**

If you are an of age citizen, at the moment of the request or renewal of your ID card the employee of the office will ask you whether you want to register your will expressing either your consent or your denial and signing a specific form.

Your decision will go into the Transplant Informatic System (SIT) which will be consulted in the event of a possible donation. You will be able to change your decision at any time by going to the local health office (ASL).

## Where and how to declare your intention

If you are over the age of 18, you can declare your intention regarding donation of organs and tissues:

1. At your Municipality by signing a simple form when you request or renew your ID card.
2. At the dedicated counter in your local health office (ASL) by filling in and signing a form ([www.donalavita.net](http://www.donalavita.net)).
3. By filling in and signing an AIDO card (the Italian Association for the Donation of Organs, tissues and cells).
4. With a declaration on plain paper or on a donor card including all your personal information, date and signature that must be carried with you at all times.

You can change your declared intention at any time. The last will expressed is the one declared valid for the purpose of donation.

### For further information:

Regional organ and tissue donation  
coordination agency  
011-6336712  
[www.donalavita.net](http://www.donalavita.net)  
[www.regione.piemonte.it](http://www.regione.piemonte.it)  
[www.ausl.vda.it](http://www.ausl.vda.it)

## Organ and tissue donation Useful information



## Organ donation and Transplantation

### **Why should you donate?**

Because the life of those waiting for an organ depends on donations. We often avoid thinking about these problems but those in need think about them every day.

### **When does donation take place?**

Only after everything possible has been done and there is not and there will never be any more brain activity due to the complete destruction of brain cells. When, in other words, brain death has been declared, which unlike *coma*, is a final irreversible condition. Three specialists (a coroner, an anaesthesiologist and a neurologist) carry out clinical tests for at least 6 consecutive hours to establish the absence of cerebral reflexes, spontaneous breathing, consciousness or any electrical brain activity all together.

### **What is the difference between brain death and coma?**

In the case of brain death, all functions are irreversibly lost. A coma can be a reversible state.

### **Which organs and tissues can be donated?**

Organs: heart, lung, liver, pancreas, kidney and intestine.

Tissues: corneas, skin, bones, tendons, cartilage, heart valves, blood vessels.

### **What is the age limit for donating organs and tissues?**

There are no age limits. The corneas can be donated until 78 years of age; kidney and liver retrieved from donors older than 80 are frequently suitable for being transplanted with good results.

### **Religions**

The major religious groups are in favour of organ donation. They all recommend donation to be the result of a freely made decision and not a constraint.

### **Anonymous Gift**

Neither the name of the donor nor that of the recipient are made known because organs are allocated according to the urgency and immunological compatibility of those waiting for a transplant.

### **Free of charge**

Buying and selling human organs is illegal; donation is always free of charge. The costs of the transplant are covered by the Italian National Health service.

### **An informed choice**

Declaring your consent to donate your organs while you are still alive is an informed choice. You can get information and talk about it with your family to share your decision and make sure it is respected.

### **Guarantees**

Italian law guarantees freedom of choice regarding donation. You can consent or refuse to donate and change your intention at any time. If you sign your consent to donate, your family cannot refuse. If you sign your refusal to donate, your organs will not be removed.

If you do not declare your intention, your organs can be donated only if family members do not object (non-separated spouse i.e. *more uxorio* cohabitant or grown up children or parents).