

THE 7 STEPS OF THE DECEASED ORGAN DONATION EYE & TISSUE PROCESS



Gift of Life Alliance



Donor Registration

1

Donation often begins with a person registering their donation decision. Signing up is the first step to saving lives.



Lifesaving Efforts

2

Whether in a hospital or at the scene of an accident, emergency medical personnel immediately begin lifesaving procedures. Every effort is made to save the patient's life. The patient is put on mechanical support and medically evaluated.



Patient Care

3

When doctors determine that a patient will not survive, the hospital notifies GOLA, which assesses whether donation may be possible.



Donation Evaluation

4

GOLA works with the hospital staff to evaluate whether donation may be an option. If the person has joined the state registry, this serves as legal authorization for donation. If not, then GOLA will ask the patient's legal next of kin for authorization.



Family Discussion

5

Once the patient is pronounced brain dead or the family decides to discontinue ventilator support, GOLA talks with the patient's legal next of kin to gain authorization and to provide compassionate support through the process.



Donation Surgery

6

A list of thoroughly matched recipients is provided from a national database. The deceased donor's organs are maintained mechanically until the surgical team recovers the organs first and then tissue. GOLA arranges transportation of the organs to transplant hospitals of the intended recipients.



Family Support

7

During the donation process, GOLA provides support to donor families, including grief support materials. Families will receive communication about how many lives their loved one saved.