



16 March 2016

Eli Toeke  
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Dear Eli

**Official Information Act Request**

You have asked for information regarding organ donation at Northland DHB.

Northland DHB's Organ & Tissue Donation policy is attached.

If you have any questions regarding Northland DHB's response to your information request please contact the Chief Executive's office in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Bartrum', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Sam Bartrum**  
**Acting Chief Executive**





# ORGAN & TISSUE DONATION

## RATIONALE

To ensure there is a standardised approach to discussing and facilitating organ and tissue donation in compliance with Organ Donation New Zealand (ODNZ) guidelines.

## SCOPE

Northland District Health Board Departments

## KEYWORDS

Organ and Tissue donation  
Donation after cardiac death (DCD)

## DEFINITIONS

### ORGAN DONATION

- Can only occur after brain death, (diagnosed as per ODNZ guidelines) Death must occur while the patient is connected to a ventilator.
- Haemodynamic parameters are supported in the ICU to ensure tissue perfusion is maintained.
- Ventilation and haemodynamic support is continued until all consented organs and tissues are removed in the operating theatre.
- Organs that can be donated include : heart or heart valves, lungs, liver, pancreas, kidneys and eyes (corneas and sclera)

### TISSUE DONATION

- Tissue can be donated post death. Death can occur outside ICU.
- Tissue that can be donated include : heart valves and eyes (corneas and sclera.)

### DONATION AFTER CARDIAC DEATH

- Currently in Whangarei Hospital organ donation is confined to organ and tissue donation as listed above.
- In the future organ donation may also be possible after death has been determined on the basis of cessation of circulation i.e. organ donation after cardiac death.
- In this instance cessation of circulation, declaration of death and removal of consented organs must all occur within the post extubation hour

## STANDARD / METHOD

### ORGAN DONATION

- All potential organ donors are discussed with the ICU consultant on duty BEFORE any discussion occurs with the family.
- All organ donation discussions with the family MUST involve the ICU consultant on duty and must occur in a private, secure area (not in front of the patient).
- All potential organ donors must be admitted into ICU for maintenance and support of haemodynamic function.
- All brain death tests to be performed by the ICU consultant and a second physician familiar with the brain death test process.
- ODNZ guidelines to be followed as per ODNZ guidelines (located in ICU).

NORTHLAND DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD			
TITLE: Organ & Tissue Donation Policy			Page 1 of 2
FIRST ISSUED: July 2010	CURRENT ISSUE : July 2010	REVISION DATE: July 2015	
AUTHORED BY: Chris Cranch		REVIEWED BY:	
AUTHORISED BY: Erna Myer - ICUHOD			



**TISSUE DONATION**

- All potential tissue donors should be referred to ODNZ.  
(ICU Link Nurse is available to assist with referrals)

**REFERENCES**

ANZICS Statement

Organ Donation New Zealand.

NORTHLAND DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD			
TITLE: <b>Organ &amp; Tissue Donation Policy</b>			Page 2 of 2
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