

# Eye Tissue Donation Process



1

## Identify Potential Donors

Role: Nursing/Medical Staff

**Nurse/Medical staff identifies a potential tissue donor**

OR

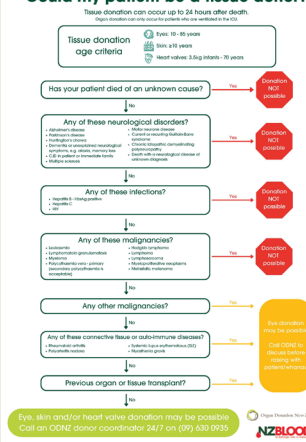
**Patient/Whānau approaches staff**

Confirm the patient is likely to die within the next few days

Confirm that the patient and whānau are aware and accepting of the prognosis

Nurse uses the ODNZ Tissue Donation Eligibility Form to assess if the patient could be a tissue donor. This form can be found on the Organ Donation New Zealand website [www.donor.co.nz](http://www.donor.co.nz)

### Could my patient be a tissue donor?



2

## Discuss Tissue Donation

Role: Nursing/Medical Staff

**Nurse/Medical staff initiates tissue donation conversation with patients/Whānau**

Consider involving cultural and spiritual support services where appropriate e.g. Māori, Pacific, or other cultural health services, Chaplaincy

Share ODNZ Tissue Donation Brochure if appropriate

Give patient/whānau time to discuss and consider information

Nurse to document the conversation held with patient/whānau in clinical notes

Contact **ODNZ** on **09 630 0935** for further information and support at any stage



3

## Refer to **ODNZ**

Role: Nursing/Medical Staff

If the patient / whānau are interested in donation, the nurse will refer them to ODNZ, who will contact the patient/ whānau directly

Identify a whānau spokesperson and contact phone number (if patient unable to advocate for themselves)

Phone **ODNZ** on **09 630 0935** to refer patient. (Referral is a brief handover)

**ODNZ** will contact patient/ whānau to discuss tissue donation in further detail and explain the process



4

## Arranging Donation

Role: **ODNZ** & Nursing/Medical

**Patient/Whānau formally consent to tissue donation**

**ODNZ** complete consent & required documentation

Nurse to complete physical assessment form

Nurse & **ODNZ** to discuss potential blood draw

Ward staff notifies **ODNZ** when the patient has died (at any stage in this process)



5

## Tissue Donation

Role: **ODNZ**

**Hospital clinical team follows usual after-death hospital protocol**

ODNZ liaises with mortuary and tissue banks

Nurse to complete physical assessment form

Nurse & ODNZ to discuss potential blood draw

**Tissue Donation facilitated in the mortuary**

- **Eye tissue:** whole eye is donated and prosthesis fitted

*There will be no change to outward appearance, open casket/coffin remains an option for whānau*

**Tissue stored with tissue banks for later transplantation:**

Corneas: 3-4 weeks  
Sclerae: up to a year

Care of the deceased is transferred from the mortuary to the funeral director

### ODNZ follow up:

- Letter of thanks to staff involved with the donation to let them know the outcome
- Letter of thanks to donor whānau for their very generous gift of donation with brief info about recipients
- Ongoing follow up and support for donor whānau