

# Information. Decide and sign

## IN COMUNE (LOCAL COUNCIL OFFICES)

You can declare and register your intention to donate your organs and tissue directly at your Comune (Local Council offices) when you request or renew your ID card, simply by signing a form.

It is part of the regional project "*Una scelta in comune*" (A choice for sharing) which adds local council offices to the options available for registering your intention to donate. The project sees the Regione Toscana in collaboration with *Anci Toscana*, *Federsanità Anci*, *Aido* and *Centro Nazionale trapianti* (the Italian national centre for transplants)



### **Relative legislation**

Italian law no. 91/1999)

Ratification law no. 25/2010 "Milleproroghe"

Ratification law no. 96/2013 "Decreto del Fare"

## 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:

- \_ at your local council office (Comune), by signing a simple form when you request or renew your ID card. This fact is not shown on the card;
- \_ at the dedicated counter in your local health

office (ASL) by filling in and signing a form;  
\_ by filling in and signing an AIDO card (the Italian association for the donation of organs, tissues and cells);  
\_ with a declaration on plain paper including all your personal details, date and signature, that must be carried with you at all times.  
\_ with the Tesserino Blu sent out by the Ministry for Health in 2000;  
\_ with a sector association DonoCard.  
*All declarations of intention are registered in the SIT (Italian transplant computer system), apart from declarations made on plain paper, Tesserino Blu and DonoCard which are however legally valid.*

Regional Freephone number 800 556060

# Information Questions and Answers

## **WHY YOU SHOULD DONATE**

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

## **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 declared 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 only be donated if family members with the right to do so do not object. In any case there is no tacit assent.

## **WHEN DONATION TAKES PLACE**

Only after everything possible has been done to save the patient and there is and never will be any more brain activity due to the complete destruction of the brain cells. When, in other words, the brain death has been declared, which, unlike a coma, is a final irreversible condition.

Three specialists (a coroner, a resuscitation specialist

and a neurologist) carry out clinical tests for at least 6 consecutive hours to establish the contemporary absence of cerebral reflexes, such as reactions to pain stimuli, spontaneous breathing, consciousness or any electrical brain activity.

#### **ANONYMOUS AND FREE OF CHARGE**

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

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

#### **DONATION OF ORGANS AND TISSUES BEFORE DEATH**

Kidneys and part of the liver, lung, pancreas and intestine, hematopoietic stem cells (from bone marrow, peripheral blood and umbilical cord blood), skin, placenta and bone segments can be donated.

All other organs and tissue can only be donated after death. apart from the brain and gonads which cannot be transplanted.

#### **RELIGIONS**

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

#### **A CHOICE FOR SHARING**

Declare your intention regarding donation of organs and tissues