

You don't need to use a stamp, but doing so helps to save our funds

The NHS Organ Donor Register
 UK Transplant
 FREEPOST (SWB 1474)
 Patchway
 Bristol
 BS34 8ZZ

What is organ donation?

Organ donation is the gift of an organ to help someone else who needs a transplant. Hundreds of people's lives are saved each year by the generosity of organ donors.

One donor can give life to several people and restore the sight of two more.

Organs that can be donated after death include the heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, pancreas and small bowel. Tissue such as skin, bone, heart valves and corneas can also be used to help others.

You are more likely to need a transplant than to become a donor. Because organs have to be transplanted very soon after the donor has died, they can only be donated by people who have died in hospital.

Most donated organs come from people who die while on a ventilator in an intensive care unit, following a severe brain injury. The brain injury damages vital centres in the brain stem that are essential to maintain life. No one can live once these centres have been destroyed.

Doctors and nurses are committed to doing everything possible to save life and organ donation is only considered once all attempts to save life have failed and after death has been certified by an independent team of doctors.

It's down to you to decide

Some people think their religion forbids organ donation but all the UK's major religions and faiths support the principles of organ donation and transplantation. Within each religion there are different schools of thought, which means that views may differ, but all the major religions accept that organ donation is down to individual choice.

Shohanna's story

"We can never express just how grateful we are to the young donor and the donor's parents who gave our daughter the gift of life."



Deloris Newman from Birmingham, mother of Shohanna who received a liver transplant when she was two years old.

Horace's story

"Liver failure has had a major negative impact on my life and I wait in hope for a suitable organ to become available. Please make a difference and give something back to the black community by joining the NHS Organ Donor Register."



Horace Hibbert, South London.



For more information:

0845 60 60 400

www.uktransplant.org.uk/blackcampaign

CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?



Facts about organ donation for the black community

www.uktransplant.org.uk/blackcampaign

Why we're counting on you!

Usually my job is to make people laugh but I want to tell you about something that's very serious – organ donation.

Many people think organ donation doesn't really affect them. Think again. Why?

Because as black people we're at least three times more likely to need a kidney transplant than the rest of the population. That's because we're at greater risk of diabetes and high blood pressure and these are major causes of organ failure.

Here's the next big problem. Donated organs need to be carefully matched to the recipient to ensure blood and tissue groups are compatible. But there is a serious shortage of black donors.

As a result, black people have to wait on average about twice as long as a white person for a kidney transplant.

Right now over 620 black people in the UK, some of them small children, are waiting for a transplant. Some of them will die waiting – and that's not funny.



Curtis Walker
Comedian

How you can become a life-saver

You can give the gift of life and help your community by joining the NHS Organ Donor Register. This is the national database of people who are willing to become donors after they die.

If you join the register it means, in the event of your death, your organs, such as kidneys, heart or liver could be used to help someone else live.

There is already a desperate need for black donors across the UK. And the need over the next ten years is predicted to go up and up. It's an issue that is relevant to us all.

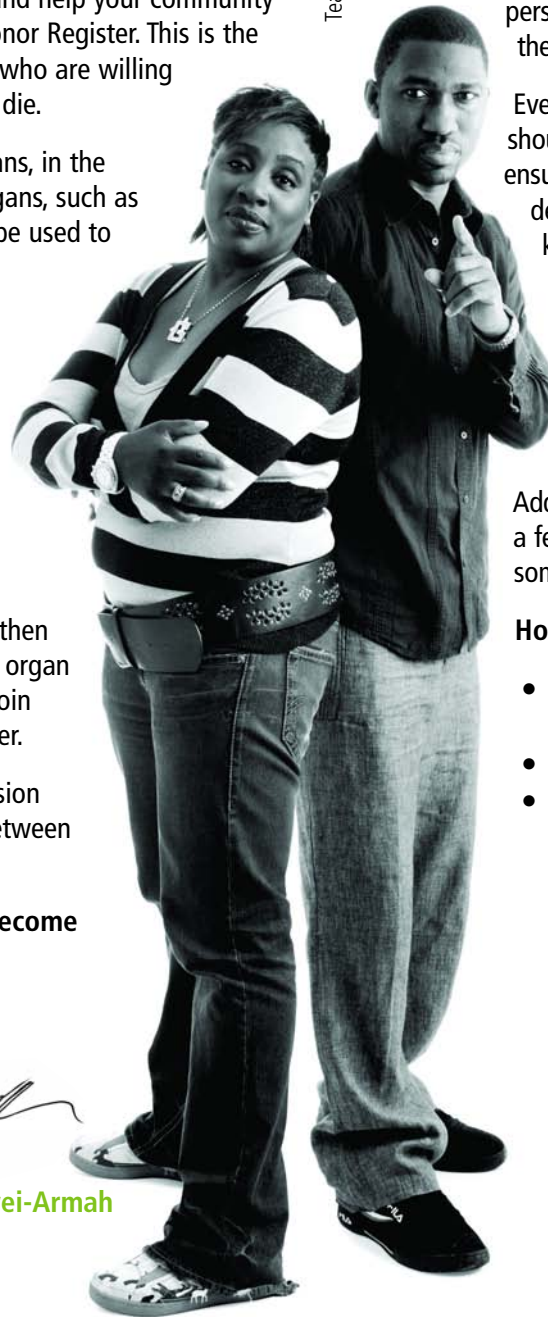
If you want to do something positive for your community then discuss your wishes to be an organ donor with your family and join the NHS Organ Donor Register.

Please don't delay. Your decision could make the difference between life and death.

Can we count on you to become a life-saver?

Gina Yashere
Comedienne

Kwame Kwei-Armah
Actor



Leave someone a future

To decide whether or not you wish to give life to someone else after you have died is something very personal and it is important that everyone makes their own decision.

Even if you already carry a donor card you should join the NHS Organ Donor Register to ensure your wishes are recorded. Discuss your decision with those closest to you so they know your wishes should the time ever come.

By joining the register you are giving your agreement to your organs and tissue being used for transplantation to save or enhance the lives of others after your death.

Adding your name to the register will only take a few minutes of your time. But it could save someone else's life.

How to join the register

- **Call the Organ Donor Line on 0845 60 60 400**
- **Visit www.uktransplant.org.uk**
- **Fill in the attached form and return it to us.**

Thank you

Please register my details on the NHS Organ Donor Register

Please complete in CAPITAL LETTERS using a black ballpoint pen.

My name and address

Surname _____
Forename(s) _____
Date of birth / / Male Female
Address _____

Postcode _____

My wishes

I want to donate: (Please tick the boxes that apply)

- A. any of my organs and tissue *or*
B. my kidneys heart liver
corneas lungs pancreas

for transplantation after my death.

Signature _____
Date _____

My ethnic origin

There's a better chance of getting a closer match and a successful transplant if the donor and recipient are from the same ethnic group. Please tick the ethnic group which best describes you.

Black or black British: African Caribbean

Other black background

Mixed: Caribbean & white

African & white Other mixed background

Other: (Please specify) _____

Not stated:

Data Protection Assurance. Completion of this form is for the sole purpose of recording your wishes on the NHS Organ Donor Register. All data processed by UK Transplant is in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998. Your details will only be used for administration purposes by UK Transplant staff or agents and will not be released to any third party without your written consent. The data you provide may be processed on our behalf in a country not normally covered by EU data protection law. If so, we will ensure that the data will be protected in accordance with EU requirements.

If you wish to amend or withdraw your record from the NHS Organ Donor Register you can do so by calling the Organ Donor Line on 0845 60 60 400, visiting www.uktransplant.org.uk or writing to us at the address overleaf. Due to the large number of registrations we receive, we regret that we cannot confirm receipt of this form. Thank you.