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## Organ Transplant



The greatest benefit of organ donation is “knowing that you are saving a life.” That life might be your spouse, child, parent, brother or sister, a close friend, or a very grateful stranger.

Most of the organs that are available come from deceased donors. A smaller number of organs come from healthy people.

Organ donors are always in short supply. There are far more people in need of a transplant than there are people willing to donate an organ.

Before you decide to become an organ donor, here is some important information you need to consider.

### **Who can donate an organ?**

Just about anyone, at any age, can become an organ donor. Anyone younger than 18 years needs to have the consent of a parent or guardian. Having a serious condition like cancer, HIV, diabetes, kidney disease, or heart disease can prevent you from donating as a living donor or being an organ done after death. The transplant team can decide whether you're a good candidate.

### **Do my blood and tissue type have to match the recipient's?**

Generally, it is easier to transplant an organ if the donor and recipient are a good match. The transplant team will put you through a series of tests to determine whether your blood and tissue types are compatible with the recipient's.

### **If I donate an organ, will I have health problems in the future?**

There are some organs you can give up all or part of without having long-term health issues. You can donate a whole kidney, or part of the pancreas, intestine, liver, or lung. Your body will compensate for the missing organ or organ part. If it is determined that donating an organ would put your health at risk in the short term or long term, then you would not be able to donate.

### **What are the complications of this surgery?**

Organ donation is major surgery. All surgery comes with risks such as bleeding, infection, blood clots, allergic reactions, or damage to nearby organs and tissues. Pain and discomfort will vary depending on the type of surgery. It will take some time for your body to recover from surgery. You might have to miss work until you're fully healed.

Even though the donation process has started, you have the right to stop it at any time if you change your mind.

For kidney transplant in UAE, only close relative can donate.

This is available at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City.