

The Process for Brain Donation

THE DONOR'S FAMILY

STEP #

BRAIN SUPPORT NETWORK

Before Brain Donation

Makes first inquiry
to Brain Support Network (BSN).

1

Reviews with family
general info about brain donation,
requirements, and process.

Provides intended donor location
and funeral home/cremation organization info once
intended donor is on hospice or has been hospitalized.

2

Investigates
the who, how, where, and current costs of brain donation,
given donor location.
May take 30 minutes to several days.

Decides whether or not
to proceed with BSN making arrangements. If ready to
proceed, provides donor name and family details to BSN.

3

Prepares detailed instructions
for the family, pathology provider, funeral home/cremation
organization, hospice (if any), and care facility (if any).
May take hours to several days depending on urgency.

Returns signed consent form
and other paperwork. Enjoys peace-of-mind that
the arrangements are now complete.
May take 30 minutes to 2 hours to complete paperwork.

4

Shares detailed instructions
with all parties listed above, as needed.
Sometimes a body donation organization is included.

Supplies
(or orders from donor's physicians) specialist medical
records and written family report to brain bank.

5

Updates brain bank
on intended brain donation and status of
medical records and written family report.

Provides alert
when death is imminent (hours or day away) and re-confirms
pathology provider fee so payment check is exact.

6

Re-confirms
the arrangements, especially if significant
time has passed.

Notifies
Brain Support Network when end of life occurs.
Our deepest condolences on your loss.

7

Monitors all parties
to ensure brain donation is successful.
Updates family.

After Brain Donation

If you have a memorial service,
BSN can prepare a personalized memorial flyer about your
family member that shares the clinical diagnosis and value
of brain donation.

8

Updates the family
on the status of tissue shipment to the brain bank.
Generally, tissue is shipped about 2 weeks after
donor's passing.

Receives
the neuropathology report from the brain bank
about 3 months after the brain bank has the tissue, specialist
records, and written family report.

9

If the family shares
the neuropathology report with BSN, we can
share our comments and analysis on the report
with your family.



Brain Support Network

We have helped over 500 families donate a loved one's brain. We can help your family too.

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