# The Process for Brain Donation

## Before Brain Donation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>THE DONOR’S FAMILY</strong></th>
<th><strong>STEP #</strong></th>
<th><strong>BRAIN SUPPORT NETWORK</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Makes first inquiry</strong> to Brain Support Network (BSN).</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Reviews with family</strong> general info about brain donation, requirements, and process.</td>
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</tbody>
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| **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. |

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| **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. |

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**We have helped over 700 families donate a loved one’s brain. We can help your family too.**

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