

Key steps in making a tissue donation referral

(For detailed information refer to the BSUH Trust procedure for tissue donation. An appendix to the organ & donation hospital policy)

1. Check the list below for any general contraindications to tissue donation.
 - a. **Infectious diseases** i.e. CJD, HIV, Hep A, B & C, (inc behaviour relating to an increased risk), Tuberculosis (MRSA is not a contraindication for corneal donation)
 - b. **Viral disease** i.e. viral meningitis (bacterial sepsis or meningitis is acceptable)
 - c. **Central nervous system diseases** of unknown aetiology (e.g., Alzheimer's disease, other dementias, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, Motor Neurone disease)
 - d. **Malignancies** (leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma, sideroblastic anaemia, polycythaemia) Solid organ malignancy is NOT a contraindication for corneas
 - e. **Auto immune diseases** i.e. sarcoidosis, rheumatoid arthritis, crohne's disease
 - f. **Long term high dose steroid use** (more than 2 weeks of > the equivalent of 15mg/day prednisolone)
 - g. **Previous organ transplant**

1. If the cause of death is unclear and/or it is a coroner's case, ensure that the **doctor refers the deceased to the coroner's officer asap Brighton 01273 665525/6, Haywards Heath 01444 445808**. coroner's officers are available via police if out of office hours or weekend **0845 6070999** and ask for the coroners officer giving the location of the death

2. **Telephone the DTC pager (available 24 hours) 08700 555500 quote pager Number TC20**. Leave a message to include your name, hospital, contact number and that it is in relation to a tissue donation (they will call you back within 15 minutes, if not page again)

3. Have deceased medical notes available when the DTC phones back (they will go through what information they need)

4. Document all conversations with the family in the medical notes. Clearly document the outcome of the referral to the DTC in the medical notes (or complete a referral form) **where possible get the next of kin to sign**.

5. Before the family leave the hospital document the telephone number of where they will be staying that day and **ensure they understand that they will receive a telephone call from the DTC within the next few hours** (following morning if the death occurred overnight).

6. Place a note in a sealed envelope and attach to the deceased indicating that they are being considered for tissue donation.

7. Transfer to the mortuary as per hospital policy. The retrieval will take place within 24 hours of the death