

Palliative Care

# Life Alaska Donor Services



# Life Alaska Donor Services

- We manage the Alaska Donor Registry (the red heart on your state ID)
- 90% of Alaskans are registered drivers, the highest in the USA
- We are the only tissue bank in the state of Alaska
- We work with Life Center Northwest to honor the wishes of Alaskans and increase the donation awareness



- Only after a referral is made are we able to determine suitability.
- Only LADS should be the one approaching the family for discussion about donation.
- Common misconceptions:
  - Cancer is an automatic rule out
  - Auto-immune diseases are an automatic rule out
  - Sepsis is an automatic rule out
- Criteria is ever changing when it comes to tissue and cornea donation, this is why we ask follow up questions.
- After these steps the donation coordinator decide if donation is suitable.
- The family is then contacted by a LADS Coordinator

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# Donation

# Referral Process and Time

Once a circulatory death is called the designated person needs to call 1-888-543-3287 to report the death. They do an initial screening and if determined as a possible donor, they page out to LADS.

For Life Alaska Donor Services referrals need to be reported with in 30-60 minutes from time of circulatory death.

Expect a phone call back from LADS with in 15 minutes, we will proceed to ask follow up questions and address any concerns.

# Follow Up

## Tissue Referral Reference

You can expect a call back from Life Alaska if the patient has the potential to be a tissue donor after you've reported the patient's death to the referral line **(888-543-3287)**. This keeps your facility in compliance with the Joint Commission (JCAHO) and Medicare's Conditions of Participation.

You'll expect to be asked these routine questions to assist Life Alaska in determining the patient's suitability for tissue donation:

- **Cause of death**
- **Information to determine infection process**(Temps, WBC, Cultures, Chest X-Rays)
- **Past medical history, surgeries, chronic illnesses**
- **Body cooling details**
- **Any type of infection at time of death**
- **Known blood loss and blood and/or fluids given**
- **Medications taken and given**(e.g. steroids, meds that affect bone density)
- **High risk information** (IV drug use, behavior)
- **Next-of-kin information**
- **Funeral Home**

If it's determined that the patient may be suitable for tissue donation, Life Alaska will contact the next-of-kin at an appropriate time to initiate the donation discussion.

We provide bereavement support to families



Age appropriate literature for families



Follow-up calls for families



Facilitate correspondence



Annual Celebration for Donor Families

What it is all about: Family