

FACT SHEET: TISSUE DONATION



Tissue donations save and dramatically improve the quality of life for people who receive them. Read below to learn more about the incredibly healing gift of tissue.

WHAT TISSUE CAN BE DONATED?

BONE TISSUE: hip, leg or rib tissue for orthopedic and reconstructive treatments

HEART VALVES: to repair defective valves and improve heart function

BLOOD VESSELS: to restore blood flow; often used for heart bypass, to make continued kidney dialysis possible, to re-establish circulation in a diabetic's limb and to repair aneurysms

SKIN TISSUE: for burn patients, trauma, reconstruction and wound-care treatments

CONNECTIVE TISSUE: ligaments or tendons to increase or restore mobility



HOW DOES TISSUE DONATION HELP?

Bone, connective tissues, Heart valves and skin can be utilized for many lifesaving and life enhancing surgeries. Skin can cover burns to prevent infections. Veins and heart valves restore lifesaving circulation to organs and tissues. Tendons and cartilage restore life enhancing mobility to recipients that have suffered life changing injuries.



TISSUE DONATION BY THE NUMBERS



2,500,000

PEOPLE BENEFIT FROM TISSUE
TRANSPLANTS ANNUALLY IN THE U.S.

1,000

PEOPLE ON AVERAGE
BECOME TISSUE DONORS
EVERY YEAR IN IOWA

75

IS THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE
A SINGLE TISSUE DONOR CAN HEAL



24 HOURS

AFTER DEATH IS THE MAXIMUM
AMOUNT OF TIME BEFORE TISSUE
RECOVERY CAN TAKE PLACE

5

YEARS IS HOW LONG TISSUE CAN
BE STORED PRIOR TO USE ONCE THEY
ARE RECOVERED AND PROCESSED