



Annual Report 2019

Organ Donation New Zealand
New Zealand's official donor agency

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ORGAN DONATION NEW ZEALAND

About Organ Donation New Zealand

Organ Donation New Zealand (ODNZ) is the national service for deceased organ and tissue donation. It is currently managed through the Auckland District Health Board and has offices at Greenlane Clinical Centre in Auckland. ODNZ co-ordinates all organ and some tissue donation from deceased donors in New Zealand and the donor coordinators provide information and ongoing support for families who have generously agreed to organ and tissue donation. ODNZ works with health professionals in donor hospitals to ensure that processes for deceased donation are nationally consistent and of the highest medical, ethical and legal standards.

The Guiding Principles of ODNZ are:

1. Every opportunity for deceased organ donation should be recognised by Intensive Care Unit (ICU) staff and every family should have donation discussed with them by a health care professional with compassion, respect and appropriate knowledge and skill. Donation should be discussed with all families irrespective of whether the word 'donor' is on the driver licence.
2. The process of organ donation must accord with good medical practice, ethical standards, and the law. The Human Tissue Act (2008) requires consent before organs or tissue may be removed from a deceased person for transplantation.
3. The family's decision about donation should always be respected. All donors come out of human tragedy and donation by the family is voluntary.

ODNZ provides education for health professionals, information to the media and responds to public enquiries.

This Report

This report outlines the activities of ODNZ and provides an authoritative account of organ donation and transplantation activity in New Zealand during 2019.

It is intended to be a valuable source of information for health professionals involved in organ and tissue donation and transplantation; and for the general community.

We gratefully acknowledge the following people for their assistance with information in this report:

Jill Faulkner from the New Zealand Heart Valve Laboratory; Vladimir Slyshkov from the New Zealand Skin Bank; Louise Moffatt from the New Zealand National Eye Bank; Dr Nick Cross, Clinical Director of the National Renal Transplant Service; Helen Gibbs from the New Zealand Heart and Lung Transplant Service; Margaret Johnston and Barry Harrison from the New Zealand Liver Transplant Unit.

From the ODNZ Clinical Director

Organ Donation New Zealand (ODNZ) sincerely thanks all the families who agreed to organ and tissue donation in 2019. All donors come out of human tragedy and organ and tissue donation would not be possible without the generosity of these families at a very difficult time.

In 2019, there were 74 donors who donated organs following death, enabling 227 recipients to receive kidney, liver, lung, heart or pancreas transplants. Many more people received tissue transplants (corneas, sclerae, heart valves and skin) from these donors. Of the 74 deceased donors, 61 were donors after brain death (DBD, where the brain is dead but the heart has not yet stopped) and 13 were donors after circulatory death (DCD, after the heart has stopped). There is further potential for an increase in the number of DCD donations.

The number of deceased organ donors in New Zealand continues to rise with time, in association with a large increase in the recognition of opportunities for organ donation, an increase in discussions with families and an increase in consultations with ODNZ donor coordinators and medical specialists.

In addition to these 74 organ donors, ODNZ facilitated 62 tissue-only donations from people who died in a hospital, hospice or at home.

In 2019 ODNZ continued to focus on education, facilitating hospital study days throughout NZ, an induction day and training for Donation Link nurses, a Core Donor Family Conversation Workshop (cFDC) and ICU Donation Audit Meetings.

I would like to thank my colleagues at ODNZ, the Donation Link teams, ICU nurses and doctors, operating theatre (OT) staff and other health professionals involved in organ and tissue donation, for their support and dedication to donation and enabling transplantation in New Zealand.

Following a review by the Ministry of Health, it has been decided that ODNZ service will transfer from being a business unit of the Auckland District Health Board to being provided as part of the New Zealand Blood Service. The timing and details of this change are not yet certain, however it may occur during 2020.

Finally, after nearly 15 years as ODNZ Clinical Director, I will be retiring from ODNZ at the end of June 2020. I would like to express my appreciation of the personal support that I have received over this time. Organ donation has always been and remains a contentious area of clinical practice. I am very grateful to many medical and nursing colleagues, in particular in ODNZ, the ICUs in New Zealand and the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS) who have helped to make working in this difficult area both rewarding and worthwhile. I am confident that the commitment by ODNZ to supporting the highest standards of good practice in deceased donation will remain.

Stephen Streat

Staffing

Janice Langlands (team leader), Mary O'Donnell, Lauren Sprenger, Sue Garland, Annette Flanagan and Lisa Craig are the ODNZ donor coordinators and provide a 24-hour consultation, advice and support service for health professionals involved in organ donation and tissue donation. They coordinate organ and tissue donations throughout New Zealand for transplant services in New Zealand and Australia and tissue banks in New Zealand.

Drs Stephen Streat (clinical director), Jo Ritchie, Laura Bainbridge and Jonathan Casement are employed part-time as the ODNZ medical specialists. Dr James Judson retired in June 2019. Drs David Closey and Chris Poynter assisted with medical specialist on-call in 2019. The medical specialists provide 24-hour support and advice on all aspects of the donation process for the donor coordinators and health professionals.

Rebecca Oliver, communications advisor, is responsible for providing information to health professionals, media and the public. Leeny Gin is the team administrator for ODNZ.

Donation Link Teams

The Donation Link teams in donor hospitals consist of ICU Donation Link nurses and doctors and OT Donation Link nurses. They are the local experts and liaison for organ and tissue donation for their hospital.

The Ministry of Health funds (part-time) ICU medical and nursing staff in Donation Link roles and is responsible for these contracts.

ODNZ ACTIVITIES

Donor Family Support

The donor co-ordinators provide information and support for donor families both before and after organ and tissue donation. This includes the offer of hand prints and locks of hair, providing general information about the outcome of their donation and facilitating anonymous communication between transplant recipients and donor families and vice versa.

Thanksgiving Services are held annually and respectfully acknowledge the generosity of families who have donated organs and tissues following the death of a family member. Families of donors, recipients and their families, and health professionals involved in both organ and tissue donation and transplantation are invited to these services. Services were held in May 2019 at the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Auckland, St Paul's Cathedral in Dunedin and the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul with around 1000 attendees.

Education

Core Family Donor Conversation Workshop (cFDC)

A cFDC Workshop was held in Auckland on the 5th and 6th September 2019 for health professionals working in organ donation. The aim of this workshop is to increase the knowledge and skills of health professionals having conversations with families of potential donors. Dr Steve Philpott, Intensivist and National Trainer for Donate Life Australia and Bernie Dwyer, National Trainer for the Australian Organ and Tissue Authority (OTA), facilitated the workshop again this year for 34 attendees, including 16 ICU nurses, 15 ICU doctors, 1 social worker, 1 ODNZ donor coordinator and 1 ODNZ medical specialist.

Dr Jo Ritchie and Janice Langlands also attended as representatives of ODNZ.

The feedback from attendees at this workshop was very positive. ODNZ plans to hold another cFDC workshop in September 2020 and strongly recommends attendance to ICU specialists and trainees, Donation Link nurses and other health professionals involved in organ and tissue donation.

Donation Link Nurse Workshop

The ICU and OT Donation Link nurses attended a two-day workshop in Auckland on the 7th and 8th November 2019.

On the first day of the workshop, the OT Donation Link nurses visited the transplant services and tissue banks in small groups and then shared feedback from their visits with the larger group. Meanwhile the ICU Donation Link nurses attended the ICU Donation Audit meeting along with their medical colleagues.

The second day of the workshop included a number of interesting topics relating to organ and tissue donation including: An update on ODNZ activities; Report from the ODNZ Communications Advisor; Processes and legal requirements when the Coroner accepts jurisdiction from the perspectives of a Coroner, Forensic Pathologist and the Police; Recreational drug use in New Zealand and internationally; and Corneal Transplantation.

Donation Link Nurse Induction Day

An education day was held in Auckland in May for 14 (10 ICU and 4 OT) Donation Link nurses new to their roles. The programme included an introduction to the ODNZ team, an overview of the process of organ and tissue donation, brain death, ICU processes and support for the family.

The ICU Donation Link nurses had a practical session on data entry for the ICU Donation Audit and a session on physiological support of the potential donor in the ICU. The OT Donation Link nurse programme included a talk about the roles of the OT Link nurse and donor coordinator during the donor surgery, and a visit to the New Zealand Heart Valve Bank and Level 8 Operating Rooms, Auckland City Hospital.

Advanced Study Days for ICU Nurses

These days have been developed for experienced ICU nurses to increase their awareness of patients who could potentially donate, to provide a better understanding of the donation process and the roles of the health professionals involved and to improve knowledge and skills in the conversations with families and colleagues. Advanced Study Days were facilitated in the following hospitals: Tauranga, Christchurch, Middlemore, Wellington and Rotorua.

ICU Donation Audit

Donation Audit Meetings were held in Auckland in May and November and were attended by ICU Donation Link nurses and doctors. ODNZ is grateful to the ICU Donation Link nurses who continue to collect and enter data for this audit.

An ODNZ medical specialist and a donor coordinator visited Southland, Gisborne and Wellington Hospitals to provide education and feedback on each unit's data.

Māori Health Education

A Hui organised by Hawke's Bay Renal Service in October provided education and awareness about living and deceased donation. ODNZ Donor Coordinator Sue Garland attended the hui together with Wikitoria Smith who shared her personal experience with organ donation.

Medical Grand Rounds

An ODNZ medical specialist presented at the medical grand rounds in Rotorua, Gisborne and Taranaki Base Hospitals. These presentations included an update on organ and tissue donation in New Zealand and addressed some of the common myths about donation.

Study Days and Health Professional Education

In 2019 full day workshops, half day workshops and educational sessions were held in the following hospitals:

Tauranga	Timaru (2 x ½ days)
Nelson	Whakatane
Auckland City Hospital	Dunedin
Middlemore	Dunedin OT
Rotorua (2 x ½ days)	Waikato OT
Wellington	Wellington OT
Hawkes Bay (2) ICU and OT	

This education provided nursing staff from ICUs and OTs, and other health professionals involved in donation and transplantation, with information about the organ and tissue donation process.

The donor co-ordinators also provided short educational sessions for health professionals in hospital wards and departments, at hospices and for nursing students, postgraduate nurses and medical students at educational institutes and universities.

COMMUNICATION

ODNZ Newsletters

A hard copy newsletter providing news and information for health professionals in donor hospitals was produced by ODNZ in April, July and November 2019. These newsletters featured information about organ and tissue donation and transplantation, along with stories from donor families and transplant recipients.

ODNZ NEWS
JULY 2019
ORGAN DONATION NEW ZEALAND

Organ Donation in 2018

2019 Thanksgiving Services

Thank You Day - Sunday 17th November 2019

ODNZ Staff Update

Upcoming Events

ISSUE/DAYS	REGIONS	DATE	MEMBERSHIP	DATE
Upcoming daily site and education sessions in donor hospitals	WAIKATO	26 JULY	NEW ZEALAND NURSE REDUCTION DAY	18 MAY
Phonathon with ODNZ	WAIKATO	8 SEP	ODNZ CONVENTION	6 SEPT
Phonathon with ODNZ	WAIKATO	29 SEPT	ODNZ CONVENTION	6 SEPT
Phonathon with ODNZ	WAIKATO	13 OCT	ODNZ CONVENTION	6 SEPT
Phonathon with ODNZ	WAIKATO	27 OCT	ODNZ CONVENTION	6 SEPT
Phonathon with ODNZ	WAIKATO	10 NOV	ODNZ CONVENTION	6 SEPT
Phonathon with ODNZ	WAIKATO	24 NOV	ODNZ CONVENTION	6 SEPT
Phonathon with ODNZ	WAIKATO	8 DEC	ODNZ CONVENTION	6 SEPT

ODNZ Link Nurse Communication

The Donation Link nurses also received regular e-newsletters keeping them up to date with ODNZ news, education dates, organ donation and transplantation news and links to new extranet content.

Public Awareness

In 2019 ODNZ facilitated a wide variety of print, television, radio and online media coverage aimed at educating people about the life changing nature of organ and tissue transplants and to encourage more people to talk about donation with their families.

The ODNZ team also responded to over 200 public enquiries via the 0800 telephone number (0800 4DONOR), by email and via the ODNZ website www.donor.co.nz.

The number of people accessing the website increased in 2019 with more than 20,000 unique visitors and over 61,000 page views.

Pamphlets and posters were also distributed by transplant recipients to libraries, schools, doctor's surgeries, Citizen Advice Bureaus and at community events.

Thank You Day 2019

Held on Sunday 17th November, Thank You Day encouraged the New Zealand community to join together with transplant recipients and health professionals in showing appreciation for organ and tissue donors and their families.

ODNZ created a video for Thank You Day showing how life changing organ transplants can be for the people who receive them. Three recipients kindly shared their journeys; Amy, a double-lung transplant recipient, Mike, a heart transplant recipient and Flynn, a heart valve recipient.

The lives of Amy, Mike and Flynn have been transformed by their transplants and they are all very grateful to their donors and their donor families. All three recipients endeavour to live life to the full and make the most of the second chance they have been given. We thank them very much for sharing their experiences with us.

The Thank You Day video was published on the ODNZ website and shared widely on social media, receiving over 27,000 views on Facebook within a few days.

It was important that the Thank You Day video was also shared with health professionals to increase awareness and conversation around organ and tissue donation and the benefits of transplantation. With the support of the Donation Link teams and DHB communication teams throughout New Zealand, the Thank You Day video was shared on hospital television screens, as well as on staff intranets, at shift changeovers and at staff meetings. Some Donation Link teams also coordinated stands in public areas of their hospitals to engage with both members of the public and health professionals.

Additional stories from transplant recipients were also shared in the media to educate people about the life changing benefits of transplantation, share the gratitude felt by many recipients and to encourage people to talk more about organ and tissue donation with their families, whānau and friends.



Flynn talking about his heart valve transplant in the 2019 Thank You Day video.



Capital Coast DHB Donation Link team stand at Wellington hospital for Thank You Day 2019.

2019 Conferences and Meetings

ODNZ is committed to maintaining the highest medical, ethical and legal standards in organ donation.

In order to stay up-to-date with current research and best practice, ODNZ staff attended the following regional, national and international conferences and meetings in 2019.

Core Course in Bereavement Counselling Sydney, Australia, 18-20 February 2019

Lisa Craig

Public speaking and presentation skills course Auckland Business School, 14-15 March 2019

Lisa Craig

International Society for Organ Donation and Procurement (ISODP), 2019 Organ Donation Congress Dubai, UAE 14-16 November 2019

Lauren Sprenger, Annette Flanagan and Dr Jonathan Casement

2019 World Congress of Intensive Care Melbourne 14-18 October 2019

Mary O'Donnell and Dr Jo Ritchie

Organ and Tissue Authority Conference, Connecting Donation and Transplantation: A decade of growth and collaboration Sydney, 12-13 March 2019

Dr Jo Ritchie and Janice Langlands

It was a Sunday afternoon in 2015 when I received a call that Oliver, my youngest son, was in an induced coma in Auckland. He had fallen and hit his head while at the beach and his friends had found him in the water and given him CPR. The doctors did not know at the time the extent of his oxygen deprivation and brain damage.

My wild, beautiful, 31-year-old son had just visited me from the USA, where he worked as a director of cinematography. Oliver was a warm, inclusive person with a great creative mind. He was a brilliant, funky, witty and an unconditionally loving person who gave the best bear hugs ever.

After I received the call, I made the hardest phone calls to Oliver's siblings, one in Peru and one in New York State (his father had died 6 years earlier). I flew to Auckland as I had a feeling Oliver would not survive. When I arrived at the hospital at least ten of his friends were there. The love and support that I received from his young friends, as well as from my dear friends, was beautiful. He was loved and appreciated by so many. Messages kept streaming in while we were waiting to find out more.

I mentioned to the doctors that I would like him to be a donor if he didn't survive. His brother flew in a few hours before Oliver was determined to be brain dead and his sister a couple of days later and both agreed to him being a donor.

Oliver helped two men; one no longer needs dialysis and the other was given another few years with his family before he died, not due to the organ donation though. This man wrote the most beautiful letter to Oliver's siblings and I, to let us know that he might now be able to support his family a bit longer and spend time with his grandchildren. It is deeply moving and helpful to know that Oliver is still contributing and that he is helping others to live a better and healthier life. Sometimes I wonder if the recipients ever got an intense urge to dance!

Since Oliver's death I have had a wonderful connection with Organ Donation New Zealand. In the first three years especially, it was important for me to hear how the recipients were doing. Attending ODNZ's annual Thanksgiving Services has been uplifting, especially hearing other recipients tell their stories.

I hope that organ donation becomes a topic of conversation in every family, among friends, in schools and by doctors and nurses.

After Oliver's death a tribute from the National Geographic was posted on the internet. He was respected by many in his field and was nominated for an Emmy, which he unfortunately never knew about.

There is much I can write about this man, who wanted his Mama to join him at Burning Man in August 2014 (which I did), who loved fishing and to pickle herring (I am Swedish) and who could sit in a dingy for hours fishing all by himself from a young age. His friends said he packed at least 70 years into his short life and that made me smile, as Oliver was immense in so many shapes and forms.

Camilla

ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

Table 1:
**Number of Deceased
Organ Donors in
New Zealand**

In 2019, 74 deceased organ donors from ICUs in 14 donor hospitals donated organs (and tissues) for transplantation. Of these, 61 donated following brain death (DBD) and 13 donated following circulatory death (DCD).

This does not include tissue-only donors (eyes, heart valves and skin).

Hospital	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Auckland City CVICU	0	0	0	0	0
Auckland City DCCM	6[1]	7[2]	21[5]	11[1]	11[1]
Christchurch	8	11[1]	11[1]	12 [1]	17[5]
Dunedin	5	11[1]	7[1]	4	10[3]
Gisborne	1	0	0	0	0
Grey Base	0	0	0	1	0
Hawke's Bay	2	3	2	2	3
Hutt	0	0	0	0	0
Middlemore	3[2]	2[1]	4[3]	6[3]	3[1]
Nelson	2	3	1	3	3[1]
North Shore	1	0	3	2	2
Palmerston North	0	0	0	2	0
Rotorua	0	0	1	1	1
Southland	3	1	3	1	0
Starship Children's	0	0	0	0	1
Taranaki Base	1	0	1	0	2
Tauranga	0	3	0	0	4
Timaru	0	0	0	2	0
Waikato	8[1]	6[1]	9[2]	5[2]	5[1]
Wairau	0	0	0	0	0
Whanganui	0	2	1	0	0
Wellington	12[1]	11	6	9[1]	11[1]
Whakatane	0	0	1	0	1
Whangarei	1	1	2	1	0
Total number of donors	53[5]	61[6]	73[12]	62[8]	74[13]

Note: [] DCD donors

Table 2:
Cause of Donor
Death by Year

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Intracranial haemorrhage	24	30	38	24	24
Cerebral infarct	2	6	6	3	2
Trauma (road)	5	6	6	11	10
Trauma (other)	6	2	4	11	11
Hypoxia-anoxia	15	15	16	9	18
Other	1	2	3	4	9
Total	53	61	73	62	74

Table 3:
Age of Deceased
Donors by Year

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Mean	44.8	48.1	48.8	46.9	47.4
Median	47.0	52.7	51.6	49.0	50.1
Minimum	5.0	17.7	14.3	14.5	13.8
Maximum	79.0	80.0	82.6	81.2	82.9

Table 4:
Ethnicity of Deceased
Donors by Year

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
European	46	47	58	46	62
Māori	5	5	7	7	6
Pacific People	0	1	4	4	3
Other	2	8	4	5	3
Total	53	61	73	62	74

Table 5:
Organs and Tissues Retrieved from Deceased Donors and Transplanted

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Kidneys	73	95	121	99	133
Hearts	12	11	23	19	17
Lungs	25	20	23	28	26
Livers	41	51	48	44	52
Pancreas	3	4	4	6	4
Eye tissue	26	28	37	26	29
Heart valve tissue	17	20	20	7	15
Skin	3	2	2	0	1

Table 6:
Organs from New Zealand Deceased Donors Transplanted in Australia

In 2018 some organs from New Zealand donors were transplanted to Australian recipients and vice versa in accordance with the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) Clinical Guidelines for Organ Transplantation from Deceased Donors, Version 1.2 – December 2018, which is available via their website: www.tsanz.com.au

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Liver	5[3]	7[1]	1	6[1]	6
Heart	1	0	0	0	0
Lungs	2	3	3	0	0
Kidney	0	0	0	0	0

[] Split livers

Table 7:
Organs from Australian Deceased Donors Transplanted in New Zealand

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Liver	4[1]	8	2[1]	3	4
Heart	1	0	1	1	0
Lungs	0	0	0	0	0
Kidney	0	0	0	0	0

[] Split livers

Table 8:
Summary Data from
ICU Donation Audit
Database

	2017	2018	2019
All deaths in ICU	1308	1329	1362
Deaths ventilated in ICU with severe brain damage	494	480	471
Possibly brain dead ¹	195	201	182
Possibly brain dead ¹ and organ donation formally discussed with family by health professionals	131	132	115
Possibly brain dead ¹ and organ donation formally discussed with family by health professionals and family agreed to donation	67	63	68
Possibly brain dead ¹ and tested	113	100	101
Possibly brain dead ¹ and tested and determined to be brain dead	109	99	100
Potential donation after withdrawal of therapy (WOT) ²	230	228	216
WOT ² in a DCD accredited hospital ³	173	169	153
WOT ² in a DCD accredited hospital formally discussed with family by health professionals ³	36	37	49
WOT ² in a DCD accredited hospital formally discussed with family by health professionals and family agreed to donation ³	15	14	16

1. Possibly brain dead: Fixed dilated pupils and no apparent brain reflexes just prior to death.
2. Possible donation after Withdrawal of Therapy (WOT): Aged 70 or less and had treatment withdrawn and died in ICU 90 minutes later or less.
3. DCD accredited hospitals: Auckland City (DCCM), Starship Children's, Middlemore, Waikato, Hawkes Bay, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch and Dunedin.

Table 9:
Summary Data
from ODNZ Referral
Database

Data from ODNZ records	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Telephone discussions about potential organ donation	136	168	271	230	246
Brain dead donors	48	55	61	54	61
DCD donors	5	6	12	8	13
Total donors	53	61	73	62	74

The number of referrals to ODNZ includes some who do not appear in the ICU Donation Audit because, for example, they might have died without ever having been admitted to ICU, or might not have died in ICU.

For my entire life I have fought not to be defined by the heart condition I was born with and apart from a couple of open heart surgeries, I was able to lead a relatively normal life. That all changed five years ago, when after further heart surgery, my condition deteriorated to the point where I had no choice but to confront the reality of my heart failure and an end-of-life prognosis.

I was diagnosed with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (obstructive) at 18 months old. The gene mutation came from my father's side and he, along with his mother and sister and my cousin all have it.

In my mid-twenties, while biking to work at 5am, I had a cardiac arrest and had an Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) implanted. Over the next ten years I became reliant on the ICD as it regularly paced and shocked me whenever my heart arrested or went into an abnormal rhythm.

Eventually my condition worsened, and in late 2017 I accepted that I was unable to work full-time anymore. However I refused to consider a transplant because in my mind, I wasn't sick enough. I was eventually told the option was a heart transplant or the probability of dying within two years. At 38 years old, I finally accepted that my condition had beaten me.

The transplant assessment was a most humbling and inspiring experience. When I went to Hearty Towers (the residence for heart and lung transplant patients), I was burdened with misconceptions, myths and questions about transplantation, so many questions! I learnt a lot over those first few days, about the surgery, the drugs and rehabilitation post-transplant.

What was more significant than everything else was the acute awareness that none of this would be possible without the generosity of donors and their families.

When I got the call to say a heart had become available for me, I was just so excited. My entire life I had resisted the symptoms of my condition and in a few short hours, my condition would be cured. In the days after my transplant I was overwhelmed at the enormity of what had happened; not just that my life had changed forever, but that my life had changed because a life had ended. The impact of this has been profound; I am changed forever in ways I can't explain.

My life is now one of firsts: I have walked with my husband in the Christchurch's Port Hill and I have had a running race with my ten-year-old daughter. We no longer have to look for the closest available car park or organise our weekends around my energy levels.

In the past I refused to let my heart condition define me, now I am proud to be defined as a transplant recipient.

There are no words to explain the gratitude I have for my life and the experiences I will have because of this second chance. I will use this opportunity to do everything I can to raise awareness about the difference donors make, they are our angels and I'll be forever grateful.

Heidi

ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION IN NEW ZEALAND

Organ transplantation in New Zealand includes:

- Kidney transplantation (deceased-donor and live-donor) at Auckland City, Starship Children's, Wellington and Christchurch Hospitals
- Liver transplantation (deceased-donor and live-donor) at Auckland City and Starship Children's Hospitals
- Heart transplantation at Auckland City and Starship Children's Hospitals
- Lung transplantation at Auckland City and Starship Children's Hospitals
- Pancreas transplantation at Auckland City Hospital

Data in Tables 10-14 include all transplants performed in New Zealand (including organs from Australian deceased donors). See Tables 6 and 7 for details of Trans-Tasman organ sharing.

Table 10:
Kidney Transplantation
by Year and Donor Type

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Recipients, deceased-donor, single kidney	73	85	115	97	127
Recipients, deceased-donor, double kidney	0	5	3	1	3
Live-donor	74	82	69	84	91
Total	147	172	187	182	221

Table 11:
Heart and Lung
Transplantation by Year

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Heart	12	11	24	20	17
Lung	23	17	20	28	26[1]

Note: [1] Single lung transplant

Table 12:
Liver Transplantation
by Year and Donor
Type

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Adult, deceased donor	36	46	45	41	48
Adult, live adult donor	0	2 [1]	1	0	1
Child, deceased donor	9	10	7	6	6
Child, live adult donor	3	1	2	2	3
Total	48	59	55	49	58

Note: [1] Domino transplant

Table 13:
Pancreas
Transplantation
by Year

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Pancreas	3	4	4	6	4

Table 14:
Multiple Organ
Transplants by Year

This table does not include the number of recipients of two kidneys.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Kidney and pancreas	2	4	4	6	4
Liver and kidney	2	1	1	0	0
Liver and pancreas	1	0	0	0	0
Heart and liver	0	1	0	1	0
Heart and kidney	0	1	0	0	0
Lung and liver	0	1	0	2	0
Total number of multiple transplants	5	8	5	9	4

Mum was a vibrant and young 67, so when I received a call that she'd had a stroke, it was a genuine shock. After racing to the hospital and seeing that Mum was "okay", I said to her at least it was only this and not the other – meaning death. But things were not meant to be and Mum suffered a devastating brain haemorrhage less than 48 hours later.

I feel so genuinely lucky to have had an hour or so with her that morning, once we knew she wasn't going to make it, to say my goodbyes and lie next to her while she took her last breaths.

Once all the family had arrived and we had had the news broken to us, we were asked if we might like to think about organ or tissue donation for Mum. Immediately I said yes. I looked around the room at the rest of the family who were all nodding in agreement. You see it was never really a decision for us, rather, a given.

Mum and Dad were regular blood donors throughout my life and Mum would often trot down to the blood donation clinic in her lunch break to give blood, not giving a second thought to it. Mum was pretty frugal when it came to money, but that didn't apply here.

Annette, the donor coordinator from Organ Donation NZ, arrived pretty soon after Mum had passed and was so respectful of Mum and so kind. I will never forget her kindness. Annette has continued to be a part of our lives over the last year, providing us wonderful updates on when Mum's tissue had been used and a little information on the recipients. Those updates have kept my heart full and lessened my grief so significantly. To know that Mum is living on through others via her donations is so heart-warming and something Mum would be so proud of. Her death was not all in vain and her eye tissue, though now in others, is still seeing the world for all its beauty and wonder.

When I told some of my friends that Mum had donated her eyes, some of them looked at me a little strange. I could tell what they were thinking – "what did she look like in the casket?" They thought it might be a bit gruesome. However the team at Organ Donation NZ are so extremely professional and explained that Mum would be given the upmost care. There was no way you could tell that Mum had made those donations and she looked very peaceful.

Though Mum's death has left an enormous hole in our lives, to know that she has saved the eyesight of four individuals after her donation is extraordinary.

Mum's life was full of colour and to know that these people are now seeing the world in a new light after Mum's donation is nothing short of amazing.

Jo

TISSUE-ONLY DONATION

Table 15:
Deceased Tissue-Only
Donation facilitated
by ODNZ

In 2019 there were 62 deceased tissue-only donors facilitated by ODNZ. Two of the tissue-only donors were *intended organ donors* where organ donation did not proceed and tissue-only donation was facilitated. Tissue donation can include skin, eye and heart valve tissue.

Referred from:	Ward/Unit	Tissue (only) Donors
Auckland City Hospital	CVICU	4
	DCCM	19
	Coronary Care	1
	Wards 42, 68, 81	3
Christchurch Hospital	ICU	6
	Acute Medical Assessment	1
Dunedin Hospital	ICU	5
Hawke's Bay	ICU	1
Hutt Hospital	Ward 5	1
North Shore Hospital	Ward 6	1
Tauranga Hospital	ICU	2
Waikato Hospital	ICU	2
Wellington Hospital	ICU	9
North Haven Hospice, Tasman Hospice, Totara Hospice		3
Rest homes		2
Family		2

The corneal co-ordinators from the New Zealand National Eye Bank also facilitate eye-only donation referred directly to their service, as well as from the Bereavement Team at Middlemore Hospital.

The heart transplant team also co-ordinate heart valve donation from some explanted hearts from heart transplant recipients.

Table 16:
Total Deceased
Tissue Donation
in New Zealand

Number of Donors	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Skin	8	10	5 [1]	3*	8
Heart Valves	30	32	34	24	32
Eyes	172	144	188	145	131

[1] Living donor

* Skin retrieval not possible from January-July 2018



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www.donor.co.nz