

The Process for Brain Donation

THE DONOR'S FAMILY

STEP #

BRAIN SUPPORT NETWORK

Before Brain Donation

Makes first inquiry
to Brain Support Network (BSN).

1

Reviews with family
general info about brain donation,
requirements, and process.

Provides intended donor location
and funeral home/cremation organization info.
Confirms if joint body donation is also desired.

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.
May take 30 minutes to complete paperwork

4

Shares detailed instructions
with all parties listed above, as needed.
Sometimes a body donation organization is included.

Supplies neurological records
and written family report to brain bank.
Enjoys peace-of-mind that arrangements are complete.
May take 1 to 2 hours to order/supply records.

5

Updates brain bank
on intended brain donation and status of
medical records and written family report.

Provides updates and alerts
when family member is on hospice and
when end of life is imminent (hours/days away).

6

Re-confirms
the arrangements with all parties,
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.

After Brain Donation

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.



Brain Support Network

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We have helped over 1,400 families donate a loved one's brain. We can help your family too.