

BODY DONATION PROCESS

REGISTRATION

You can register as a body donor by completing our Consent Form. Please return one copy to UBC and deposit another copy with a close family member or your physician, who will be in a position to carry out your wishes at the appropriate time. An executor or next-of-kin may complete and sign an Executor Consent Form on behalf of the deceased or an individual unable to give consent.

Our donors have the option upon registration to consent to an indefinite donation: this allows the University to retain some of the anatomical material longer than the typical 6 month to 3 year period. This provides a significant contribution for the education of our students.

It is also important that donors are aware that consent to donate one's body may also include consent for tissue sampling, serology testing and medical imaging of anatomical material for education and research.

AT THE TIME OF DEATH

- Contact the UBC Body Donation Program at 604-822-2578 as soon as possible. We must receive the body within 72 hours of death—prolonged delay in notification can result in decline of the donation.
- If death occurs outside regular business hours (8am-4pm, Mon-Fri), please leave a detailed message, then contact Alternatives Funeral and Cremation Services at 604-857-5779. In order to determine if a body is suitable for donation, we must first contact the physician and family of the deceased. A medical history for the deceased will only be obtained after death.
- The executor/next-of-kin and physician will then be notified of our decision. If accepted, we will make all the necessary arrangements for transport of the body to UBC. If declined, it will be the responsibility of the executor/next-of-kin to proceed with alternate arrangements for the deceased.

ACCEPTED DONATIONS

Accepted donations will remain under the care of the University for a period of 6 months to 3 years. In addition, if an individual has specified on their consent form that their remains be donated indefinitely, a portion may be retained for use in teaching, training and research.

After use, the University will arrange for cremation of the remains by Alternative Funeral and Cremation Services, and the executor/next-of-kin will be contacted to collect the ashes. All cremated remains must be claimed at this time.

The University will bear the cost of cremation and simple urns. The executor/next-of-kin is responsible for providing any special urns, burial plots, monuments or memorial services for the donor.

MAILING ADDRESS

Attn. Body Donation Program
Dept. of Cellular & Physiological Sciences
University of British Columbia
2350 Health Sciences Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3

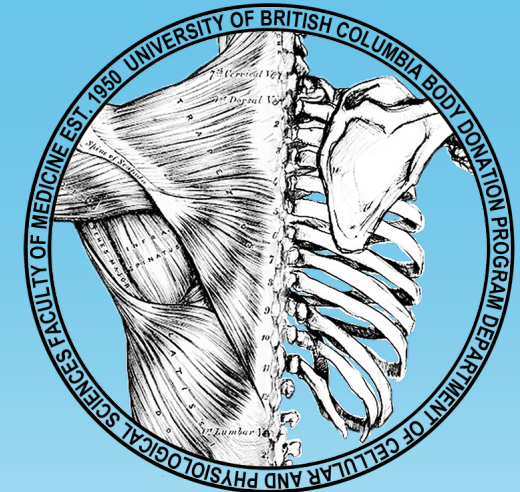
INFORMATION & CONSENT FORMS

Available online at
<http://cps.med.ubc.ca/bodyprogram>



University of British Columbia
Faculty of Medicine
Department of Cellular &
Physiological Sciences

BODY DONATION PROGRAM



Phone: 604-822-2578

Fax: 604-827-4209

Email: body.program@ubc.ca

Website: cps.med.ubc.ca/bodyprogram

BODY DONATION PROGRAM



The Body Donation Program in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia has been in service since 1950.

The donation of one's body is a very special gift to the future healthcare professionals of our community. Over the years many individuals have donated their bodies for the purpose of anatomical study and medical research, making a very special and valuable contribution to the education of our health care professionals and the communities they serve. There is a constant need for these donations.

Most body donations are used for teaching purposes and will be the subject of student examination and dissection. Some donations will be used specifically for medical and research training and will help to advance surgical training techniques and enhance progress in medical research. Our program does not conduct individual or disease-specific research.

Students preparing themselves for careers in medicine, dentistry and related professions are fully aware of the special privilege granted them and the obligation they have to conduct themselves in a professional manner during their training. Those who donate their bodies to the medical school can be assured that all human remains are accorded the dignity and respect that our society customarily grants the dead.

As the custodian of donations, the University ensures that the anonymity, confidentiality and dignity of our donors are upheld.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IS THERE AN UPPER AGE LIMIT FOR DONORS?

No, but donors must be over the age of 30 to qualify.

DOES THE UNIVERSITY ACCEPT ALL REGISTERED DONORS?

No, some conditions will not allow for donation to occur. The University reserves the right to decline any donation if considered unsuitable for its purposes. It is recommended that alternate arrangements be made in the event that the donation is declined.

WHAT CONDITIONS MAY PREVENT BODY DONATION?

- Infectious diseases (e.g. HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B or C)
- Severe antibiotic resistant infections (e.g. MRSA, VRE)
- Obesity
- Extensive bodily trauma/open wounds/recent surgery
- Suicide or traumatic death
- Autopsy or Coroner's case
- Delay in notification of death
- Most organ donations (except corneal transplant)
- Other conditions at the discretion of the body program

WHO SHOULD I NOTIFY OF MY DECISION TO REGISTER AS A BODY DONOR?

It is recommended that you notify and discuss this decision with your next-of-kin, executor of your estate and your physician.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS INVOLVED?

All transportation costs are covered by the Body Donation Program. The University will bear the cost of cremation when it occurs. The only costs would be for the issuance of the death certificate, which is completed through our partnered funeral home, Alternatives Funeral and Cremation Services.

ARE AUTOPSIES PERFORMED AT YOUR FACILITY?

No, we do not perform autopsies on the donations received at our facility.



IF I AM A REGISTERED ORGAN DONOR CAN I ALSO REGISTER WITH THE BODY DONOR PROGRAM?

Yes, it is acceptable to register with both the UBC Body Donation Program and the BC Transplant Society. However, in the event of solid organ removal for transplant (other than corneal transplant) body donation is not possible. If you are declined as an organ donor, body donation may be considered as an alternative.

ONCE I'VE SUBMITTED MY CONSENT FORM, CAN I REVOKE MY CONSENT?

Yes. You may contact the office at any time to rescind your consent for donation. Also, the Program cannot accept donations if the family or executor of the donor contests the donation. You should discuss your decision with your family so they are comfortable with your choice to donate your body.

CAN I DONATE MY REMAINS TO MY LOCAL UNIVERSITY'S MEDICAL PROGRAM?

No, the University of British Columbia - Vancouver is the only Body Donor Program in British Columbia.

WHAT IF I DIE OUTSIDE BRITISH COLUMBIA?

A medical school in the region where death occurs may be contacted to make arrangements for donation to another program. Occasionally donations are accepted from out of province. However your next-of-kin or estate will be responsible for the costs associated with transportation. If you move away from British Columbia, we recommend you make arrangements with a donor program in your place of residence.

CAN I MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION?

Yes, financial contributions are accepted. Cheques made payable to the *Anatomical Sciences Research Endowment* can be mailed to the program address.

