

Southwest Transplant Alliance is dedicated to saving and improving lives.

Our goals are consistent with the philosophy shared by the hospitals that we serve. We want to work closely with you as a team to provide the highest quality of care for our donor patients.

This brochure outlines responsibilities as the ICU nurse caring for a potential organ donor, and the responsibilities of our organ recovery and family support team.

MISSION STATEMENT

Southwest Transplant Alliance exists to save and improve lives by providing organs and tissues for transplantation.

We distinguish ourselves by forging meaningful relationships with donor families and the communities we serve in order to realize every possible donation.

VISION STATEMENT

Every organ and tissue donation opportunity is realized as long as the need exists.



SOUTHWEST TRANSPLANT ALLIANCE
A NONPROFIT CORPORATION

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800-788-8058
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Beaumont
Corpus Christi
El Paso
Galveston
Tyler

Common Goals
ORGAN DONATION
Different Roles



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Common Goals Different Roles

Our Common Goals

- ▶ To maximize the viability of organs for transplant
- ▶ To fulfill the wishes of the donor family

Donor Specific Goals (prior to and after consent)

- ▶ Keep SBP \geq 100mmHG
- ▶ Maintain urine output between 100-400 cc/hr
- ▶ Maintain CVP 4 to 8
- ▶ Maintain normal body temperature
- ▶ Keep SaO₂ \geq 95%
- ▶ Perform ACLS in the event of cardiac arrest

The ICU Nurse's Role in Making the Referral

- ▶ Call STA at 1-800-201-0527 when the following clinical triggers occur:
 - When a patient has a neurological injury with a Glasgow Coma Score \leq 4
 - Prior to Brain death
 - Prior to end-of life discussion with the family

- When a family asks about donation
- After cardiac death on non-ventilated patients

Important: Please do not mention donation. STA will approach the family about donation if and when appropriate. (For more information, see our brochure Caring for Donor Families).

The ICU Nurse's Role After Consent

- ▶ Obtain blood for serology & HLA testing in conjunction with the ORC
- ▶ Obtain accurate height & weight
- ▶ Set up for Arterial & CVP line placement (if not already done)
- ▶ Monitor and record vital signs, I&O's q1h
- ▶ Assist in coordinating procedures
- ▶ Assist in obtaining information
- ▶ Notify the STA recovery coordinator of any changes in the donor

Note: If you are unclear about your role or have questions, please ask the STA recovery coordinator for assistance.

Southwest Transplant Alliance's Role

- ▶ Assess medical suitability
- ▶ Facilitate the ME release of body for donation in conjunction with the physician
- ▶ Gather information from hospital chart and various sources

- ▶ Provide orders for hemodynamic management, labs, procedures & consults
- ▶ Make numerous phone calls for organ placement
- ▶ Coordinate and mobilize the arrival of the surgical recovery teams

Note: The average length of time in the ICU is 12 to 24 hours from time of brain death pronouncement and written consent from the donor's legal next-of-kin.

The Physician's Role

- ▶ Maintain viability of organs prior to brain death pronouncement
- ▶ Facilitate brain death testing and pronouncement by performing a:
 - Thorough clinical evaluation
 - Formal apnea test
- ▶ Comprehensive documentation of brain death pronouncement
- ▶ Communication with the patient's family about brain death

We Value Every Opportunity to Work with You.

