**DONATION AFTER CIRCULATORY DEATH**

The process of Donation After Circulatory Death (DCD) may be unfamiliar to some. This infographic for healthcare providers will answer some of the most common questions.

**What is DCD?**
DCD is the recovery of life-saving organs for transplant following irreversible cessation of circulatory function. It normally occurs after a planned, compassionate withdrawal of care.

**Who is a candidate?**
Any patient who meets your OPO’s referral criteria may be a candidate for DCD if the family elects to stop life-sustaining measures. Call your prior to decelerating care if your patient has an open referral.

**Who manages care?**
Prior to a pronouncement of death, OPO’s do not manage care for patients. Candidates for DCD will continue to receive care at the direction of their hospital physicians with the goal of comfort, compassion, and dignity in mind.

**What is my responsibility?**
As a physician, you will be responsible for directing the patient’s end-of-life care and pronouncement. This includes all orders for medications & required labs, extubation, and pronouncement of death.

**What is the OPO’s responsibility?**
The OPO will coordinate with transplant centers to find the best recipient for your patient’s gifts. They will also arrange for the recovering surgeon to be onsite (but not involved) at the time of extubation.

**HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?**
Contact your local OPO or browse through the DCD Toolbox.