Treatment before Donation after Circulatory Death (DCD)

- Patient remains under hospital physician's care including comfort care (antibiotic, heparin, labs, as indicated by Gift of Life Michigan).
- Time of extubation is determined by next of kin, Gift of Life Michigan and hospital staff (Family Huddle).
- Gift of Life Michigan will contact the OR staff. The DCD is scheduled when all organs are placed/transplant teams identified (Patient Care Team Huddle and OR Room Preparation Huddle).

Patient transfer to OR and ventilator withdrawal

- Hospital staff transfers patient to OR with a portable monitor (A-line, 02 stats, heart rate).
- Attending physician (or designee), nurse and RT staff are responsible for withdrawal of ventilator.
- Comfort measures, per hospital policy, are administered by hospital staff. Physician pronouncing death/providing end-of-life care cannot be involved in recovery or transplantation of organs.
- Hospital OR staff charts the patient, per hospital policy. Gift of Life may send a biopsy of the liver or kidney to pathology for a frozen section; OR staff generates and submits any required hospital paperwork for a frozen section. **OR staff writes a declaration of death in the patient chart.**
- Hospital staff preps and dapes the patient.
- **If the patient does not arrest within the timeframe needed for organ donation, staff returns patient to hospital unit and continues comfort measures.**

OR staffing needs

- Circulator nurse
- Scrub tech
- Anesthesia staff (if lungs are to be recovered)

OR set-up needs

**Gift of Life provides:**

- Balfor
- Preservation solution
- Packing materials

**Hospital provides:**

- Basic major laparotomy set
- Morse retractor
- 2 Bovie machines
- Additional IV poles
- Additional back tables
- Morgue pack
- Laparotomy drape
- Slush machine
- Multiple suction units
- Flexible bronchoscope (if lungs are recovered)