

Other resources

Below are some other questions commonly raised about organ and tissue donation, and some relevant articles you might use as background for discussion about them.

'Does it matter who the donor is?'

Donor organ 'personality' worry

Most people have a strong aversion to the idea of receiving a donor organ from a killer, a study suggests.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8084936.stm>

Britain's oldest living organ donor

He's 83 years old, but after his wife died, Nicholas Crace decided he wanted to give someone else a second chance. Here, he tells how he gave a kidney to a stranger in her 60s
<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/features/britains-oldest-living-organ-donor-8434171.html>

Organ transplants using 'risky donors' rising

More organs from higher risk donors are being used for transplants because of a donor shortage
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8374269.stm>

'Should children be allowed to make their own decisions about becoming a donor?'

Let children decide to be organ donors, says GOSH doctor

Organ donation should be discussed as part of the national curriculum so teenagers can decide for themselves if they want to be donors, a Great Ormond Street Hospital doctor has said.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/8752867/Let-children-decide-to-be-organ-donors-says-GOSH-doctor.html>

Legal, ethical and cultural barriers to child organ donations

Clinicians from a leading UK children's hospital have called for European countries to change the way they tackle the shortage of organ donations from children

<http://www.news-medical.net/news/20110908/Legal-ethical-and-cultural-barriers-to-child-organ-donations.aspx>

'Do some people deserve organ donation more than others?'

Donors want say over who gets organs

People are refusing to join the national human organ donation register unless they can impose conditions on who gets their kidneys, livers and other body part

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-175805/Donors-want-say-gets-organs.html#ixzz2Ld4X4D77>

Rajaratnam's kidney transplant could cost taxpayers \$300,000

NEW YORK (CNNMoney) -- Taxpayers could be bankrolling a kidney transplant for wealthy white-collar convict Raj Rajaratnam, who was recently sentenced to 11 years in federal prison for insider trading.

http://money.cnn.com/2011/10/21/news/companies/rajaratnam_kidney_taxpayer/index.htm

Transplant row over organs for drinkers

Heavy drinkers are receiving nearly one in four of the UK's liver transplants

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2009/feb/15/liver-organ-transplants-alcohol>

Alcohol abusers should not get transplants, says Best surgeon

The surgeon who performed George Best's liver transplant says urgent measures are needed to identify patients who are likely to abuse alcohol after their operations, so they can be kicked off hospital waiting lists.
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2005/oct/05/drugsandalcohol.medicineandhealth>

'Should living donors be paid?'

Public to have say on organ donation incentives

Cash incentives and the payment of funeral expenses are two ideas being put forward to encourage people to donate human organs and tissue.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8630129.stm>

Kidney donor payments 'would save lives'

Hard-up students should be allowed to pay off their debts by selling a kidney, an academic has argued.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-14379215>

Kidneys for sale: poor Iranians compete to sell their organs

In the only country where the organ trade is legal, the streets near hospitals have been turned into a 'kidney eBay'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/may/27/iran-legal-trade-kidney>

Should it be legal to pay for bone marrow donations?

A mother in the US is desperate to find bone marrow donors to save the lives of her three daughters who are critically ill from a rare blood disorder.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-17346797>

Israeli organ donors to get transplant priority

Israel is to become the first country to give donor card carriers a legal right to priority treatment if they should require an organ transplant.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/8416443.stm>

"Should the families be allowed to decide, regardless of donor's wishes?"

Families are 'blocking the wishes of organ donors', but doctors are blamed for 'giving in'

Families are unfairly blocking organ donation from dead relatives who wanted to make the gift of life, claims a leading expert in ethics.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2185196/Families-blocking-wishes-organ-donors-doctors-blamed-giving-in.html#ixzz2KzC3cvZg>

Families' veto over donation of organs attacked

Research has revealed one in 10 families of dead patients on the donor register still refuse to give their consent.

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/families-veto-over-donation-of-organs-attacked.18389556>

"Should the system be changed so people have to opt out of donation after death?"

Doctors urge move to 'opt-out' organ donor system in Scotland

An opt-out system for organ donation would better reflect the views of most Scots, doctors' leaders have said.

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/health/doctors-urge-move-to-opt-out-organ-donor-system-in-scotland-1.69148>

Organ donation: Opt-out bill alone 'will not leave more organs'

Plans to change the rules on organ donation have moved a step closer following the publication of a Bill to create the UK's first opt-out system.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-20583179>

Organ donation: Jewish and Muslim presumed consent worries

Plans to introduce presumed consent organ donation in Wales face opposition from within the Jewish and Muslim communities.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-20182517>

'Are there no alternatives to humans donating their organs?'

Kidney grown in lab successfully transplanted into rat

Functioning kidney built from newborn rat cells is a major step towards personalised transplant organs for people.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2013/apr/14/kidney-grown-lab-transplanted-animal>

Animal-to-human transplants: the ethics of xenotransplantation (1996)

This report investigates the complex ethical and safety issues involved in attempts to develop animal organs that can be transplanted into humans. Download the full report or read a summary of the key issues at

<http://nuffieldbioethics.org/xenotransplantation>

Other resources

NHS Blood and Transplant fact sheet: Did you know?

Addresses many of the common assumptions and questions about donation in the UK with statistics and facts.

http://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/newsroom/fact_sheets/did_you_know.asp

Give and let live

Online educational resource for students aged 14 or over produced by NHS Blood and Transplant, includes activities for students and a resource pack for teachers.

<http://www.giveandletlive.co.uk/en/index.html>

Human bodies: donation for medicine and research (2011)

Our report sets out guidance to help people consider the ethical acceptability of various ways of encouraging people to donate, both for treatment of others and for scientific research. Download the full report, individual chapters or a short guide at

<http://www.nuffieldbioethics.org/donation>