How can brain donation be arranged?

The Movement Disorders Centre staff can talk about brain donation with you and your family. To indicate your intention to donate your brain, you would be asked to sign an Informed Consent Form. It is all we need to plan for the donation. Staff at the Movement Disorders Centre can provide this form and answer any questions you may have. Please ask your doctor or nurse for more information and how to get the forms you need. Staff at the Movement Disorders Centre will guide you through the process.

Can family learn about the results of the examination?

Yes. Let the Movement Disorders Centre staff know that the family will want to know the results of the study. The movement disorders neurologist will talk about the results with the family once they are ready. It can take many months for these reports to be ready.

For more information, please speak to your Movement Disorders neurologist.
You may also contact our Brain Donation Coordinators:

Tel: (416) 603-5800 ext 2637 or 6834
Fax: (416) 603-5004

Movement Disorders Centre
McLaughlin Pavilion,
7th Floor, Rm 402
Toronto Western Hospital
399 Bathurst Street
Toronto, ON M5T 2S8
**Why Brain Donation?**

The key to establishing a definitive diagnosis of various brain diseases such as Parkinson’s disease, Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, Multiple System Atrophy and others is studying the brain.

In addition, brain donation:

- Helps researchers learn important information that adds to our knowledge about Parkinson’s disease and other movement disorders.
- Helps families understand the diagnosis and may affect future family members.
- Gives patients a chance to contribute to future treatment options and help improve patient care and for Parkinson’s disease and other movement disorders.

**Who can donate?**

Every Movement Disorders Centre patient can donate.

**Will it affect my funeral arrangements?**

Brain donation does not cause a major delay in funeral arrangements and does not interfere with an open casket viewing for the donor. The brain donation procedure is done with great care by a specially trained neuropathologist as soon as possible after death. Please tell the Movement Disorders Centre staff of any funeral arrangements ahead of time. Talk with our staff if you are worried about timing.

**Will brain donation cost anything?**

No. The costs of the brain donation are covered by the Movement Disorders Centre. However, any financial donation* the family are able to make towards transportation and other expenses would be greatly appreciated. The donor family is still responsible for the usual expenses of the funeral and burial.

**How can I give to the study?**

*Gifts to the study are an important source of funding and are always appreciated. If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, please make cheques payable to: Brain Donation Program, Movement Disorders Centre Research Fund 399 Bathurst St., McL 7-402, Toronto, ON M5T 2S8

**Does my religion support brain donation?**

Most major religions support brain donation because it can help add to research and can make a difference for future patients and families.

If you want to know whether your religion supports removing a body part (organ) after death, please speak with your spiritual leader.

For more general information about religious and cultural beliefs about donating organs after death, please visit the Trillium Gift of Life’s website at Click on “Organ and Tissue donation” and then “Cultural and Religious Perspectives on Donation”

**What do I do if I change my mind about donation and research?**

You may stop your consent at any time. Call the Movement Disorders Centre brain donation coordinator or your doctor to let them know as soon as possible.