JERSEY DAY

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NATHAN GREMMO
COMMUNITY NETWORK

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ABOUT JERSEY DAY

Each **JERSEY DAY** we ask schools and workplaces across Australia to allow students and employees to wear their favourite sporting jersey to school or work and begin the conversation with their family and friends about the importance of becoming an organ and tissue donor. **JERSEY DAY** has been inspired by the gift of life that Nathan Gremmo gave to six people when he became an organ donor at age 13.

You can register to become an organ and tissue donor at **donatelife.gov.au**, and you can find out more about **JERSEY DAY** at **www.jerseyday.com.au**.

This campaign is all about raising awareness – there is no requirement to raise funds. **JERSEY DAY** is fun, it's free and by registering to become an organ and tissue donor you could be helping to save a life.

We are looking forward to seeing all of your images this **JERSEY DAY** on social media. Don't forget to tag us **@jerseydayau**.

Nathan Gremmo

JERSEY DAY

ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

DID YOU KNOW?

One organ and tissue donor can transform the lives of many people. Effective transplantation treatment can save lives, restore health and improve quality of life.

Australia is a world leader for successful transplants. In 2025, the lives of 1,438 people changed through organ donation.

Our donation rate has significantly increased in recent years. Throughout the past decade the number of donors has more than doubled with 557 in 2025 compared to 247 in 2009, thanks to the generosity of deceased organ donors and their families.

Australia needs more active engagement and awareness within the community to increase Australia's family consent rate. In Australia, the family will always be asked to confirm the donation decision of the donor before the donation can proceed. This is why encouraging family discussion of organ donation is so important.

THE FACTS

- Around 2,000 Australians are currently waitlisted for a transplant. A further 14,000 are on dialysis, many of whom would benefit from a kidney transplant.
- In 2025, 82% of families agreed to donation when their family member was registered to be a donor on the Australian Organ Donor Register (AODR).
- 4 in 5 Australians support organ and tissue donation.
- In 2025, 790 families agreed to donation. (A national consent rate of 53%).
- While the majority of Australians support organ and tissue donation, only 35% of the population aged over 16 are registered.

Source: Australian Donation and Transplantation Activity Report 2025

Jersey Day is the perfect time to begin the conversation about organ and tissue donation with your family and friends.

Register your organ and tissue donation wishes at donatelife.gov.au - it only takes one minute.

FAMILY DISCUSSION OF ORGAN DONATION

WHY DOES MY FAMILY NEED TO KNOW?

The family of every potential donor will be asked to give their consent of donation if the situation arises. The request will be made by a trained health professional.

Even if you're registered as a donor, your family will still be asked to give consent. That's why it is so important to have the chat with your loved ones.

WHAT IF MY FAMILY WON'T UNDERSTAND?

Organ and tissue donation is a sensitive subject. The decision to become a donor is a personal and important one. To make the right decision for yourself, you need to have the facts so that your decision will be informed. Your family might also need the time to discover the facts and make their own decisions.

WHEN IS A GOOD TIME TO START A FAMILY DISCUSSION?

Today. You can use every day situations to start a discussion about important life issues, including what to do with your organs and tissues if the situation arises. These might include:

- The next time your family sits down for a meal.
- Getting life insurance or writing a will.
- Getting a check-up by your GP.
- Hearing about someone who has become a donor, who needs a transplant or who just had a transplant.
- Around the time of Jersey Day.

JERSEY DAY is the ideal time to talk to your family about organ and tissue donation.

Staff at Westmead Children's Hospital, 2019.

JERSEY DAY

THE IMPORTANCE OF REGISTRATION AND FAMILY DISCUSSION

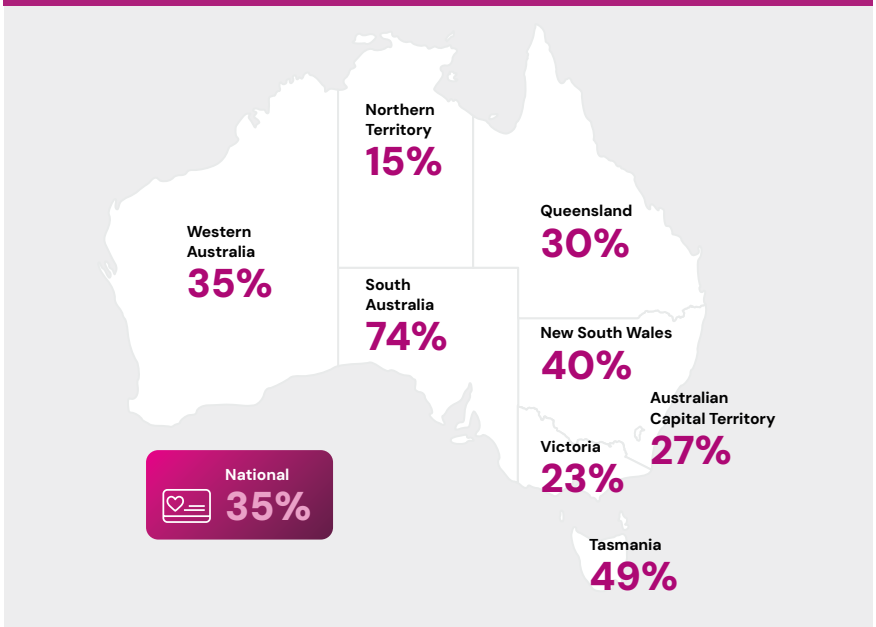
TELLING YOUR FAMILY YOU WANT TO BE A DONOR AND REGISTERING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Consideration of organ and tissue donation comes at an intensely emotional time for families. Knowing that your loved one wanted to become a donor has made a major difference when families are faced with the situation of being asked to agree to donation.

You can register an 'intent to be an organ and tissue donor' from the age of 16. Adult Australians (18 years or over) can register to be a donor on the Australian Organ Donor Register (AODR).

In 2024, around 8 in 10 families agree to donation when their family member is registered. Consent for donation was given in 63% of cases where the family knew if their family member wanted to be a donor. Only 38% of families agreed to donation when their family member was not registered, and the family was unaware if they wanted to be a donor.

Percentage of population aged 16 and over registered on the AODR in 2022



Source: Australian Donation and Transplantation Activity Report 2025

8/10

families agreed to donation when their family member was a registered donor

6/10

families agreed to donation when they knew if their family member wanted to be a donor

4/10

families agreed to donation when their family member was not registered and the family was not aware

Source: Australian Donation and Transplantation Activity Report 2025

COMMON MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS

You may think you are too old or unhealthy to be a donor, or that your religion doesn't support organ and tissue donation. These are common myths and misconceptions.

IN FACT: You need to join the Australian Organ Donor Register – state-based driver's licence donor registries no longer exist.

- You can no longer register to be an organ and tissue donor on your driver's licence. If you previously registered to be a donor on your driver's licence, you now need to join the Australian Organ Donor Register. It takes less than a minute.

IN FACT: Age is not a barrier - people over 80 have become organ and tissue donors.

- People in their 70's and 80's have saved the lives of others through organ and tissue donation. While your age and medical history will be considered, you shouldn't assume you are too old or not healthy enough.

IN FACT: People who smoke, drink or have an unhealthy diet can still donate. You don't have to be in perfect health to save lives.

- There's every chance that some of your organs and tissues may be suitable for donation. Don't rule yourself out – count yourself in.

IN FACT: Most major religions support organ and tissue donation as an act of compassion and generosity.

- Many Australians of diverse backgrounds are unsure about whether their culture or faith supports or allows organ and tissue donation. This uncertainty is one of the key barriers to making a decision, or sharing that decision with loved ones.
- Most major religions including Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Judaism support organ and tissue donation. The organ and tissue donation process can accommodate religious and cultural end of life requirements.

BECOMING A DONOR

Everyone has their own reasons for deciding whether to become an organ and tissue donor. It is important that the people close to you understand those reasons. It's important to let your family know you want to be a donor as they will need to give consent. Six out of 10 families gave consent when they knew their family member's wishes.

Register to become an organ and tissue donor by visiting www.donatelife.gov.au

Also available through MyGov and the Medicare app

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FACTS AND FIGURES

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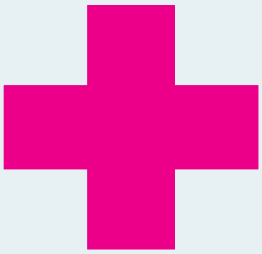
One organ donor can save the lives of up to seven people and help many more through eye and tissue donation

Since the national program started in 2009 more than 19,469 Australians have received life-saving organ transplants

In 2025 more than 2,757 Australians benefited from corneal transplants



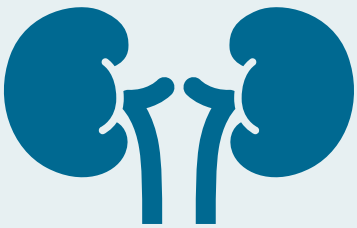
Australia has a best practice clinical donation system led by specialist doctors and nurses across 95 hospitals in Australia

5

Five out of ten families agreed to donation when they were supported by a donation specialist nurse

If Australia had a national consent rate of 75%, we would be in the top 10 countries in the world for donation rates

All major religions in Australia support organ and tissue donation



There are around 2,000 Australians currently waitlisted for a transplant and a further 14,000 people on dialysis who could benefit from a kidney transplant

We thank those Australians and their families who have said 'yes' to organ donation

SPREAD THE WORD! SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH #JERSEYDAYAU

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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT

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