Advancing medical research through organ and tissue donation

YOU CAN HELP FIND A CURE

Help further neurological research by donating brain, nerve and spinal cord
Donating neurological tissues — including brain, nerve and spinal cord — for research will have a lasting impact on future generations by helping scientists test breakthrough theories, develop new medications and perhaps even find a cure for a debilitating brain illness or injury. It’s simple to donate, there is no cost involved and the tissue is urgently needed.

Human tissue — whether healthy or diseased — is precious to researchers developing cures for nearly every disease imaginable. When the time comes, will you make the choice to give the gift of hope?

“\textit{We wouldn’t be where we are today in much of medicine without the use of human tissue.}”

— Bill Leinweber
NDRI President & CEO
SHARE THE HOPE, FIND A CURE

During an unimaginably difficult time of uncertainty and loss, many families find comfort in helping others through organ and tissue donation for research. These gifts help researchers discover new treatments or cures for the devastating effects of diseases and disabilities affecting the brain and nervous system. Your decision to donate neurological tissue — brain, nerve and spinal cord — to NDRI makes it possible for researchers across the country to study diseases and conditions ranging from Autism and ALS to Parkinson’s and dementia. Your gift could be the key that helps discover treatments for traumatic brain injury affecting so many of our nation’s service members, or unlock knowledge toward understanding and treating Autism Spectrum Disorders. Imagine knowing that your decision to share hope in your own moment of grief helped find a way to relieve another’s pain or improve quality of life!

When you donate whole brain, brain tissue, nerves or spinal cord, you not only help scientists develop new, more effective treatments for patients, you offer them a better understanding of the effects that neurological disorders and other common diseases, such as diabetes and hypertension, have on the brain.

THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS YOUR GIFT CAN HELP.

These renowned NDRI partners rely on families, like yours, to make the ultimate gift to advance their research on debilitating brain illness or injury:

Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine (CNRM) / Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) — studying neurological symptoms of traumatic brain injury (TBI), such as loss of consciousness or memory before or after the time of injury, weakness, balance problems, vision changes or intracranial lesions, that the donor may have experienced following combat or blast exposures during U.S. military service.

This program requires your permission for you and/or your family to be contacted at a later date by the researcher for additional information regarding the donor’s health and social history. This program also requires your permission to allow the Department of Defense to share the donor’s military record with the CNRM/ USUHS for evaluation of possible TBI symptoms. Please note that the presence of TBI symptoms is not a requirement for this study.

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) — exploring the causes of associated behaviors, including excessive repetitive behaviors, developmental delays and deficits in communication experienced by those diagnosed with Autism, Asperger’s or a Pervasive Development Disorder.

This program requires your permission for you and/or your family to be contacted at a later date by the researcher for additional information regarding the donor’s health and social history.

I’D LIKE TO HELP. WHAT NEXT?

Once you make the selfless and caring decision to donate to NDRI’s Brain Tissue Programs, you will need to sign the following authorization forms:

- The standard authorization form for tissue donation provided by your organ procurement organization or tissue bank, which authorizes collection of tissue for research.
- The NDRI authorization form for neurological tissue donation to the Autism project and consent to be contacted by a research partner after donation.
- The Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine / Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences authorization to participate in the U.S. Military TBI project and consent to be contacted in the future by a research partner.

Your gift supports critical disease research. Register today to be an organ and tissue donor.
Advancing medical research through organ and tissue donation.

NDRI is the nation’s leading source for high quality biospecimens for research.

NDRI is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that annually ships more than 29,000 biospecimens from our nationwide procurement network to over 500 researchers worldwide.

Make an impact by donating organ or tissue samples.

NDRI makes it easy to contribute to solving complex medical challenges. Organ and tissue donation for research can make the difference for someone with a common or neurological disease, and potentially lead to a new treatment or a cure.

NDRI PROVIDES THE RESOURCES FOR SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

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