Code of Medical Ethics: Organ procurement & transplantation

Organ procurement

The need for organs for transplantation far outstrips the supply. Efforts to increase donation must protect the interests of living and deceased donors.

Code of Medical Ethics opinions: organ procurement

- Transplantation of Organs from Living Donors: Opinion E-6.1.1
- Organ Donation after Cardiac Death: Opinion E-6.1.2
- Studying Financial Incentives for Cadaveric Organ Donation: Opinion E-6.1.3
- Presumed Consent & Mandated Choice for Organs from Deceased Donors: Opinion E-6.1.4
- Umbilical Cord Blood Banking: Opinion E-6.1.5
- Anencephalic Newborns as Organ Donors: Opinion E-6.1.6

Organ transplantation

Organ transplantation is unique in that it involves two patients, donor and recipient, both of whose interests must be protected.

Code of Medical Ethics opinions: organ transplantation

- Guidelines for Organ Transplantation: Opinion E-6.2.1
- Directed Donation of Organs for Transplantation: Opinion E-6.2.2

Special issues in organ procurement & transplantation

Xenotransplantation is a novel proposal for addressing the shortage of transplantable organs that can pose distinctive ethical challenges with respect to patient safety and public health.

Code of Medical Ethics opinions: special issues in organ procurement & transplantation

- Xenotransplantation: Opinion E-6.3.1

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Chapter 6: Opinions on organ procurement & transplantation (PDF)

AMA Code of Medical Ethics

Visit the Code of Medical Ethics page to access additional Opinions, the Principles of Medical Ethics and a list of CME courses that are available.

These Opinions are offered as ethics guidance for physicians and are not intended to establish standards of clinical practice or rules of law.