

Preserving the Option for Organ Donation



A Reference Guide for Donor Hospitals

WHY IT MATTERS

Organ donation is made possible through the support and collaboration of our hospital partners. Preserving the option for donation includes maintaining ventilatory and hemodynamic support until the organ donation process is complete, or Southern Legacy of Life (SLL) determines the patient to be medically unsuitable for transplant.



More Transplants

Approximately 5,000 people die each year while waiting on a kidney transplant. Every 9 minutes a new name is added to the waiting list.



Patient and Family Support

Through teamwork and collaboration, we're best able to honor the patient's end-of-life decisions.



CMS Regulation

State law and federal Medicare/Medicaid rules require hospitals to refer all imminent deaths as well as preserve the option for organ, tissue, and eye donation.

HOW TO ADVOCATE

Hemodynamic Support

- Consider adding vasopressors to maintain SBP >90 mmHg and/or MAP >65 mmHg.
- Consider transfusion if Hgb <10 gm/dL.

Ventilatory Support

- Maintain ventilator support and adjust settings to maintain arterial pH 7.35–7.45.
- Maintain SpO₂ >92%.
- Consider adding IPV (MetaNeb) or CPT.

Electrolyte Balance

Replace electrolytes to ensure:

- Na⁺: 135–155 mEq/L
- K⁺: 4.0–5.0 mEq/L
- I Ca⁺⁺: 1.13–1.4 mmol/L
- Mg⁺⁺: >2.0 mg/dL
- PO₄⁻: 3.0–4.0 mg/dL

Urine Output

- Maintain urine output of 0.5–4 mL/kg/hr.
- Evaluate intravascular volume status for urine output >4 mL/kg/hr.

Contact Us

Southern Legacy of Life
1-800-727-6726

Source: National Kidney Foundation

<https://www.kidney.org/atoz/content/transplant-waitlist>

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