

# Senior Next-of-Kin Authorisation for removal of Eye Tissue



Name of Senior Available Next of Kin: .....

Relation to donor: .....

I hereby give permission upon death for the donation of: (please circle one)

- A. Corneas
- B. Eyes

And a small sample of blood for virology testing,

To be removed from .....  
(Name of Donor)

To the best of my knowledge the deceased did not object to the donation as indicated (by points A or B) above

I also give permission for the employees of the *Lions Eye Donation Service* to obtain information on the donor's medical history. This may include contacting me and the donor's doctor for a more detailed history. I understand that this information is to be used only by the *Lions Eye Donation Service* for the purpose of determining suitability for transplantation and will remain secure and confidential to the Service.

I have read and understood the information on the accompanying page about eye donation

**Signed** .....

**Date**..... **Time** .....

*Witnessed by (print name)* .....

*Signed*..... *Status*.....

*Date*..... *Time* .....

If donation of eyes has been consented to I give permission that those parts that are unsuitable for transplantation used for medical research (*Please note this will only occur if permission has been given*)

Yes / No Signed Next of Kin.....

*Please file this page into the patient's medical history*

**Lions Eye Donation Service**

Contact Number  
24 hour Service

03 9929 8708  
0408 370 148

### **What does consenting to donation mean?**

Consenting to donation will help the lives of many people in your community. There are however a few things that you should know. With eye tissue donation, there is more than one option available for transplantation. For instance, if consent has been given for corneas (the clear dome-shaped layer at the front of the eye) to be used for transplantation, then only the corneas will be donated. However, if consent has been given to donate both eyes, then in addition to the corneas, the sclera (white part of eye) may also be used for transplantation. However, if consent for eyes has been given (as distinct from just corneas) sometimes only the corneas will be donated; it will depend on the circumstances of the donor surgery at the time.

Routinely, a sample of blood is also taken to allow a number of tests to be run to exclude the possibility of transmitting a disease from the donor to the recipient. These tests are for diseases such as Hepatitis and AIDS. A blood sample is always required for any form of eye tissue donation.

### **Consenting to research**

Consent to research will ensure that eye tissue which cannot be transplanted is able to be used for medical research into eye disease. This would include parts of the eye such as the retina and lens that cannot be transplanted. In addition, if other transplantable parts of the eye (such as the cornea) are found upon further assessment to be unsuitable for transplantation consent for research would also enable them to be used for that purpose.

### **What happens if the tissue can't be used for transplant and consent has not been given for research?**

If research has not been consented to and for some reason the eye tissue is unsuitable for transplantation, the tissue is disposed of in a proper and respectful manner.

### **Other Questions**

Timing - The donation process is a very quick and simple operation. Usually, the donation is completed within the first 24 hours after death.

Appearance - Every precaution is taken to ensure that the normal appearance of the donor is maintained. There are no skin incisions or sutures involved.

Cost - There is no cost to the family for this donation, nor does the family receive any money for the donation.

Correspondence - We will write to the next of kin in the weeks following the donation to inform them of the outcome of the donation. The donor family is welcome to write to the recipients and vice versa.

### **How to contact us**

If you require any further information or assistance we are able to be contacted 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Office Hours (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm)	03 9929 8708
24 hour Service	0408 370 148
Fax	03 9929 8711

***The family is encouraged to take this page with them for future reference***