

FECCA urges CALD communities to make their organ and tissue donation decision count



FECCA encourages all our members and supporters to make their donation decision count and join the Australian Organ Donor Register (AODR). Thanks to a new online registration form it is now faster and easier than ever to register your decision on the AODR. Visit donatelife.gov.au and you can register in just minutes.

Registration counts, 9 in 10 families agree to donation proceeding when their loved one is a registered donor. With around 1,300 Australians currently on transplant waiting lists, and a further 12,000 people on dialysis, it is important to make and register your decision and have the discussion with your family.

As part of a Community Grant received by FECCA from the Australian Organ and Tissue Authority (OTA) earlier this year, FECCA joined the national discussion around organ and tissue donation by publishing a special edition of *Australian Mosaic*. This edition focuses on engaging culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities in the discussion. FECCA encourages all members and supporters to have a look at the special edition of [Australian Mosaic](#) with tools and resources to help start discussions on organ and tissue donation in your community. We encourage you to share this edition within your communities.

FECCA urges Australia's CALD communities to:

Discover the facts about organ and tissue donation to make an informed decision to join the AODR

Decide about becoming a donor and register your decision then,

Discuss your decision with the people close to you.

Did you know:

- One organ and tissue donor can save and improve the lives of 10 or more people.
- Most religions support organ and tissue donation as an act of compassion and generosity. Religious leaders from the Islamic, Hindu, Catholic, Jewish Buddhist and Greek Orthodox faiths have all acknowledged their support for organ donation.
- Almost anyone can donate their organs and tissue. While your age and medical history will be considered, you shouldn't assume you are too old, too young or not healthy enough. Only some medical conditions may prevent you from being a donor.
- The Australian Organ Donor Register is the only national register to record your decision to become an organ and tissue donor.
- The majority of Australians (67%) are willing to donate organs and tissue, and 72% of Australians would accept a life-saving transplant if they needed one.
- 2 in 3 Australians are yet to join the Australian Organ Donor Register.
- Even if you have registered on the Australian Organ Donor Register, you still need to discuss your decision with your family and friends. Donation won't proceed without your family's consent. Families are more likely to give consent if they know your donation decision.
- Just over half (56%) of Australians surveyed have made a decision about becoming an organ and tissue donor, with 36% not yet having decided, and 8% being unsure.

- Registering your donation decision is important because it leaves your family in no doubt of your decision to save lives as an organ and tissue donor.
- While 71% of survey respondents believed it was important to discuss donation decisions with their family/partner, only half (51%) had discussed the subject with loved ones.
- Once you've registered your donation decision, share your decision with family and friends and encourage others to register to save lives today.

Be part of the discussion and make your donation decision count. Visit donatelifegov.au to find out more about organ and tissue donation and to register your decision to save lives.

<p>Register your donation decision on the Australian Organ Donor Register at:</p>	
<p>donatelifegov.au</p>	

For more information on the special issue of *Australia Mosaic* or to request a hard-copy, please contact Policy and Project Officer Dr Janecke Wille on janecke@fecca.org.au or 06 6282 5755.