



Media Release

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Discussing organ and tissue donation is a priority in end-of-life conversations

Palliative Care Australia (PCA) is proud to support DonatLife Week to further encourage more Australians to join the Australian Organ Donor Register online and share their preferences with family and friends.

With around 1,400 Australians currently on the wait list for a life-saving transplant, and a further 11,000 people on dialysis, the generous act of organ donation has a far reaching effect, changing the lives of both transplant recipients and their families.

This week is an opportune time for all Australians to understand the facts about organ and tissue donation, join the Donor Register and let their family know they want to be a donor.

PCA CEO Liz Callaghan highlights the importance of discussing organ and tissue donation with family and friends to ensure end-of-life care preferences are met.

“DonatLife Week is the ideal time to start a discussion with family and friends so they know how you want to be cared for and what values are important to you.

“It is essential to consider organ and tissue donation as an option when discussing your future care plans. If you choose to donate your organs when you die, it is vital to register your decision and advise your family and friends of your choice,” Ms Callaghan said.

Palliative Care Australia’s [Dying to Talk resources](#) will help people start the conversation about their preferences at the end of life.

“PCA’s Dying to Talk initiative seeks to support people to engage in discussions about their end-of-life care preferences. Investment in activities such as this will be vital in enabling all Australians to identify their preferences and be able to make informed choices about their care preferences at the end of life,” Ms Callaghan said.

Make your decision count and join the Australian Organ Donor Register online at donatelife.gov.au.

Led by the Organ and Tissue Authority, DonatLife week is a key part of the Australian Government's national reform program to increase organ and tissue donation and transplantation outcomes in Australia.

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