

Waikato Hospital Waikato District Health Board		Patient Label	
DONATION AFTER CIRCULATORY DEATH (DCD)			
DATE:/...../.....			
Criteria for identification of potential DCD donor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On ventilatory support in ICU irrespective of diagnosis Consensus that intensive therapies will be withdrawn in the near future No age barrier 			
Advice is available by contacting the donor coordinator: 24 hour number 09 630 0935			
The following procedure for DCD is listed in approximate sequence			
	Procedure	Action by √ when completed	Explanatory Notes
1	Agreement by the treating team that continuing intensive therapies is not in the patient's best interest.	Intensivist and ICU nurse	The decision to withdraw intensive therapies is made by the treating team in accord with good medical practice. This includes consideration of the patient's best interests, ethical standards and legal requirements.
2	Contact donor coordinator	Intensivist	Please discuss all patients who meet the above criteria for identification of the potential for donation with the donor coordinator on call. The donor coordinator will contact the ODNZ medical specialist on call, who in turn will phone the intensivist.
3	Discuss the possibility of DCD	Intensivist and ODNZ medical specialist	These issues will be addressed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likelihood of deterioration to brain death and possibility of DBD Organs and tissues under consideration for DCD donation – lungs, liver, kidneys, heart valves, eyes and skin The doses of opioid and/or sedative the intensivist plans to use at the time of withdrawal of intensive therapies, The ODNZ medical specialist will not seek to modify this plan in any way. Whether the interval between withdrawal of intensive therapies and death is likely to be within the timeframe for DCD Whether or not referral to the coroner is required Possible timing of withdrawal of intensive therapies Whether the intensivist objects to giving heparin at the time of withdrawal of intensive therapies The name of the intensivist who will be involved at the time of withdrawal of intensive therapies.
4	Agreement to withdraw intensive therapies	Intensivist and ICU nurse	A patient with decision-making capacity and the patient's family/whānau and the treating team must agree to the withdrawal of intensive therapies before DCD can be considered.
5	Provide space and time for patient/whānau to attend to cultural/spiritual/emotional/social needs.	Intensivist and ICU nurse	Offer karakia and spiritual support to family/whānau during this time.
6	Notify ICU Link nurse	ICU staff	ICU staff notify ICU Link nurse.

	Procedure	Action by √ when completed	Explanatory Notes
7	Donor Bloods	ICU staff	The label on the pink blood tube in the Donor Pack must be handwritten. Patient labels can be used on the other tubes and the form. Ensure all sections of the blood request form, including the Specimen Declaration, are completed. Donor coordinator will arrange courier to collect Donor Pack from ICU and transport to NZBS for testing (as soon as possible to prevent undue delays for the donor family/whānau). Testing of bloods commences only after family/whānau has indicated intent to proceed with DCD.
8	Discuss organ donation with both the patient (if he/she has decision-making capacity) and the family/whānau	Intensivist, ICU Link nurse and ICU nurse	Discuss the possibility of organ donation and explain the DCD process including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of care by the ICU team, including the use of opioid and/or sedation if required • Whether therapy will be withdrawn in ICU or OT • Family/whānau can only have a few minutes with their family/whānau member following death • The organs and tissues that are under consideration • Use of heparin • If death does not occur within the required timeframe that DCD will not proceed but tissue donation can be facilitated following death. • Confirm the intent of the family/whānau (and of a patient with decision-making capacity) to proceed with DCD.
9	Inform donor coordinator	Intensivist or ICU Link nurse	Inform donor coordinator of outcome of discussion. When family/whānau agreeable to donation, whether or not heparin will be given and whether referral to the coroner is required.
10	Donor assessment	ICU Link nurse	Donor coordinator will request the information outlined in the ODNZ Intensive Care Guidelines: Section 8.4
11	Medical/Social Questionnaire and Physical Assessment	ICU Link nurse	Complete Physical Assessment and meet with family/whānau to complete Medical/Social questionnaire. Email completed documentation to donor coordinator: contactus@donor.co.nz
12	Inform theatre team	Donor coordinator	Contact ACNM coordinator OT with early notification of DCD to enable planning for donor surgery. ACNM contacts OT Link nurse. Donor coordinator notifies anaesthetist on call.
13	Agreement of the coroner	Intensivist	When referral to the coroner is required, agreement from the coroner for organ and tissue donation must be obtained before intensive therapies are withdrawn: 24 hr number 0800 266 800. The Chief Coroner agrees that, in planning for DCD, it is appropriate for the coroner to agree before death has occurred. Document outcome of the discussion and the name of the coroner involved on the Authority for Organ and Tissue Removal Form.
14	Complete patient ID with police	Intensivist	When the coroner has accepted jurisdiction, request police to attend and complete patient ID while family/whānau is present, preferably while the patient is in the ICU and before withdrawal of intensive therapies.
15	Confirm organs and tissues that can be donated	Donor coordinator	Contact transplant units with donor information and whether or not heparin will be given. Inform ICU staff of organs and tissues that can be donated.
16	Cessation of enteral feeding for lung donation	Intensivist and ICU nurse	If lung donation planned, donor coordinator will ask the ICU staff to cease enteral feeding and to aspirate the NG tube.
17	Determine if family/whānau wish to be present at time of withdrawal of intensive therapies and death	Intensivist and ICU Link nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If family/whānau members wish to be present, withdrawal of intensive therapies will take place in ICU Bedspace 2. • If no family/whānau members wish to be present, withdrawal of intensive therapies, withdrawal will take place in OT 1, Level 2 (if available).

	Procedure	Action by √ when completed	Explanatory Notes
18	Written consent for organ and tissue donation	Intensivist and ICU Link nurse	Inform family/whānau of DCD process, the organs and tissues that are able to be donated and if heparin will be given before withdrawal of intensive therapies. Family/whānau representative signs Authority for Organ and Tissue Removal Form. If family/whānau is not present, verbal consent in accord with the Human Tissue Act 2008 is documented on Authority for Organ and Tissue Removal Form.
19	Inform donor coordinator	Intensivist or ICU Link nurse	Inform donor coordinator whether consent has been obtained and for which organs and tissues, whether the family/whānau wish to be present and where withdrawal of intensive therapies will occur.
20	Organisation of donor surgery	Donor coordinator	Organise OT time in liaison with ICU, ACNM coordinator OT and the donor surgical team(s). Confirm OT time and location of withdrawal of intensive therapies with ICU, OT and anaesthetist.
21	Organisation of OT staff	ACNM coordinator OT	Organise OT staff (OT Link nurse, circulating nurses 1 or 2, anaesthetic technician if lung donation planned) who are to be involved.
22	Patient care in ICU	ICU staff	Continue patient care, including maintenance of adequate MAP and oxygenation.
23	Travel to donor hospital	Donor surgical teams and donor coordinator(s)	Donor surgical team(s) and donor coordinator(s) travel to hospital.
24	OT set up for donor surgery	Donor surgical team(s) and OT staff	Set up OT 1, Level 2 for donor surgery. Trolleys remain uncovered in OT. Donor scrub nurse remains with sterile set-up. Donor coordinator informs ICU staff when OT set-up is complete.
25	Planning meeting	Donor coordinator	Facilitate a meeting in the ICU meeting room prior to commencement of DCD process for those who will be involved: intensivist, ICU Link nurse, ICU nurse, OT Link nurse, OT nurse(s), anaesthetic technician (if lungs are being donated), OT HCA, donor surgical team(s) and donor coordinator(s). Staff will not be allowed to be involved in the DCD process if they have not been present at the planning meeting. Documentation will be checked at this meeting. OT staff will provide appropriate OT attire for ICU staff, if withdrawal of intensive therapies is going to be in OT.
26	Inform ICU staff	Donor coordinator	Inform ICU staff when OT staff are ready and donor surgical team(s) are gowned and gloved.
For withdrawal of intensive therapies in OT 1 Level, 2 with no family/whānau, go to No. 38			
For withdrawal of intensive therapies in ICU Bed space 2 with family/whānau present, continue from No. 27			
27	Contact OT HCA	ICU staff	Ensure OT HCA is available and present to assist with transfer of patient to OT, including holding the "Jumbo" left when death is imminent.
28	Administration of heparin	Intensivist	Give heparin (300u/kg) prior to withdrawal of intensive therapies provided the intensivist does not think it will influence the process of dying.
29	Preparation for lung donation	Intensivist and ICU nurse	If lung donation planned, place patient in a 30 degree head up position. Aspirate the nasogastric tube and avoid external pressure to the abdomen.

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	Procedure	Action by √ when completed	Explanatory Notes
30	Withdrawal of intensive therapies	Intensivist, ICU Link nurse and ICU nurse	Discontinue ECG monitoring and continue arterial pressure monitoring and pulse oximetry. Withdraw all intensive therapies (ventilation, ETT and inotropes) at the same time. An intensivist and ICU nurse remain with the patient until death has occurred. Any appearance of distress is treated with opioid and/or sedation in the same manner as would be done if intensive therapies were being withdrawn and DCD was not a possibility.
31	Determination of death	Intensivist	Determine death on the basis of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immobility • Apnoea • Absence of pulsatility on the arterial line of at least 5 minutes duration Notify donor coordinator and document time of death on the Determination of Death Form If death does not occur within the required timeframe, DCD will not proceed. Tissue donation can be facilitated following death.
32	Inform donor surgical team(s) of death	Donor coordinator	Inform donor surgical team(s) and OT staff of death.
33	Transfer of patient to OT	Intensivist, OT Link nurse, OT circulating nurse(s), donor coordinator and OT HCA	Intensivist, donor coordinator and OT HCA transfer deceased patient immediately to ICU lift doors. OT staff (waiting at ICU lift doors), OT HCA and donor coordinator(s) transfer patient to OT. If lung donation planned, the patient remains on the ICU bed. If abdominal organ donation only, the donor coordinator, OT Link nurse, circulating nurse(s) and OT HCA transfer patient to OT table. The ICU nurse and ICU Link nurse provide care and support for the family/whānau.
34	Check patient ID and Determination of Death Form	Donor surgical team(s), OT staff and donor coordinator	Donor coordinator completes patient ID and sights time of death documented on Determination of Death Form with donor surgical team(s) and OT staff.
35	Re-intubate trachea for lung retrieval	Thoracic anaesthetist and anaesthetic technician	If lung donation planned, patient re-intubated immediately.
36	Transfer of patient to OT table	Anaesthetic staff, OT staff and donor coordinator	If lung donation planned, anaesthetic staff, circulating nurses and donor coordinator transfer patient to OT table.
37	Donor surgery	Donor surgical team(s)	Donor surgery commences immediately.
For care of patient following donation, go to No. 50			
For withdrawal of intensive therapies in OT with no family/whānau present, continue from No. 38			
	Procedure	Action by √ when completed	Explanatory Notes
38	Transfer of patient to OT 1, Level 2	Intensivist, ICU nurse, ICU Link nurse and donor coordinator	ICU staff who will be in OT require over-gowns and hats but not overshoes and masks. Transfer patient using the transport trolley to OT 1, Level 2 using self-inflating bag and O ₂ cylinder, transport monitor with arterial pressure monitoring and inotrope infusion pump, if required. Continue with pulse oximetry. Discontinue ECG monitoring. Take all medications that might be required, including heparin, opioids and sedation. Intensivist and ICU nurse continue patient care.

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	Procedure	Action by √ when completed	Explanatory Notes
39	Sight patient ID	Thoracic anaesthetist or donor coordinator	If lung donation planned, thoracic anaesthetist completes patient ID with donor surgical teams and OT staff. If abdominal organs only, donor coordinator completes patient ID with donor surgical team and OT staff.
40	Preparation for lung donation	Intensivist and ICU nurse	If lung donation planned, place patient in anti-Trendelenburg with head elevated to 30 degrees on the operating table. Aspirate the nasogastric tube and avoid external pressure to the abdomen.
41	Patient prepared for donor surgery	Donor surgical team(s)	Patient prepared and draped for surgery. A donor surgical nurse remains in set-up room, all other OT staff and the donor surgical team(s) (gowned and gloved) wait in the sterile corridor.
42	Administration of heparin	Intensivist	Give heparin (300u/kg) prior to withdrawal of intensive therapies provided the intensivist does not think it will influence the process of dying.
43	Withdrawal of intensive therapies	Intensivist and ICU nurse ICU Link nurse	Withdraw all intensive therapies (ventilation, ETT and inotropes) at the same time. Continue arterial pressure monitoring and pulse oximetry (ECG monitoring will have been discontinued in ICU). An intensivist and ICU nurse remain with the patient until death has occurred. Any appearance of distress is treated with opioid and/or sedation in the same manner as would be done if intensive therapies were being withdrawn and DCD was not a possibility.
44	Determination of death	Intensivist	Determine death on the basis of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immobility • Apnoea • Absence of pulsatility on the arterial line of at least 5 minutes duration Notify donor coordinator and document time of death on the Determination of Death Form. All equipment remains in OT until after the donor surgery. If death does not occur within the required timeframe, DCD will not proceed and care of the patient will be continued in ICU. Tissue donation can be facilitated following death.
45	ICU staff leave OT	ICU staff	All ICU staff leave the OT as soon as death has been determined and documented.
46	Inform donor surgical team(s) of death	Donor coordinator	Inform donor surgical team(s) and OT staff (waiting in sterile corridor and set-up room) of death.
47	Sight time of death on Determination of Death Form	Donor surgical team(s), OT staff and donor coordinator(s)	Donor coordinator completes sighting of death on Determination of Death Form with donor surgical team(s) and OT staff.
48	Re-intubate trachea for lung retrieval	Thoracic anaesthetist and anaesthetic technician	If lung donation planned, patient re-intubated immediately (after ICU staff have left OT)
49	Donor surgery	Donor surgical team(s) and OT staff	Donor surgery commences immediately (after ICU staff have left OT).

For care of deceased following donation, continue from No. 50

Care of deceased following donation

50	Completion of routine death documentation	ICU staff	Routine death documentation is the responsibility of the Intensivist and ICU nurse. ICU nurse notifies Enquiries.
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	Procedure	Action by √ when completed	Explanatory Notes
51	Care of deceased following donation	OT staff and donor coordinator(s)	Following donation, care of the patient is carried out by OT staff and donor coordinator(s) before transfer back to ICU room opposite HDU Dispensary or the mortuary. If the family/whānau wish to spend time with their family/whānau member following donation this is facilitated in ICU.
52	For coronial cases	ICU medical staff	ICU registrar notifies Police. Patient ID and Life Extinct Form are completed. Family/whānau may be required to formally identify the patient (if not already completed). Police transfer deceased patient to mortuary.