

DEPARTMENT OF ANATOMY
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES GUWAHATI

INFORMATION FOR THE PROSPECTIVE DONORS OF WHOLE-BODY AFTER DEATH

1. AIIMS, Guwahati accepts donation of body after death for teaching and scientific research.
2. People willing to donate their body after death must discuss about their wish with their immediate family, doctors, and other relevant people, before making the decision.
3. The **WILL FORM** can be obtained from the **website of AIIMS, Guwahati** or **directly from the Department of Anatomy, AIIMS, Guwahati** located on the ground floor of college building.
4. The **WILL FORM** duly filled by the donor should be returned to the office of **Department of Anatomy, AIIMS, Guwahati**, for registration.
5. **Donor Card** will be issued to the donor after registration.
6. **Documents to be submitted at the time of registration of WILL FORM**
 - a. Duly filled **WILL FORM** along with the consent of next of Kin (near relative).
 - b. A passport size photograph.
 - c. Identify proof (with address) of the donor (Voter card/Aadhar card).
7. **UNREGISTERED DONATIONS** will also be accepted by the Department of Anatomy.
8. After the death of the donor, it is the responsibility of the relatives of the deceased (donor) to inform the Department of Anatomy, AIIMS, Guwahati, about the death and discuss the procedure of donation with the faculty of Department of Anatomy.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Faculty	9864063237 (Dr Roonmoni Deka) 9943540541 (Dr Praveen K) 8289024121 (Dr Amandeep Kaur)
Timings	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (MONDAY to FRIDAY) 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM (SATURDAY)

9. If the body is accepted for donation, then the family members of the deceased are requested to bring the body to AIIMS Guwahati.
10. **Please note that the donation of the body MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED**, if the donor has the following conditions: HIV, infective hepatitis, active tuberculosis, sepsis, gas gangrene, tetanus infection, putrefied bodies, COVID-19 positive, body after road traffic accident, medico-legal case or any other form of unnatural death. Such bodies are a serious health hazard to the medical students and the staff handling them.

11. It is requested that any relative/friend of the deceased discuss the matter with the faculty from Department of Anatomy, at the time of death. After the faculty is satisfied with the information about the cause of death and the condition of the body etc., the donation will be accepted.

12. Documents to be submitted at the time of handing over the body by the legal heir / near relatives/next of kin. (Registered donors and Unregistered donors)

- a. A copy of Certificate of Medical cause of death (Death certificate) by registered medical practitioner.
- b. No objection certificate from the local police station, regarding body donation to the medical college.
- c. Identity proof of the deceased donor (Voter ID / Aadhar card).
- d. Consent and Identify proof (Voter ID / Aadhar card) of legal heirs/near relatives of the deceased, who are present at the time of hand over of body to the Department of Anatomy.

13. The dead body should be brought to the Department of Anatomy during above mentioned timings. The information of death should be shared with the Department of Anatomy, as early as possible, so that the Department can make necessary arrangements for further processing of the body. We request the relatives to make necessary arrangements to bring the body to the Department of Anatomy.

14. The body may either be used immediately or preserved for variable periods of time for future use. After full utilization, the remains will be scientifically disposed.



Department of Anatomy

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Guwahati



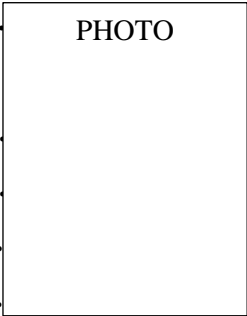
BODY DONATION - WILL FORM

Reg No: -
(For office use)

Date:/...../20.....

Name of the donar:.....
Address:.....

Age:.....years **Gender:**.....
Phone/Mobile no:.....
Aadhaar card no:.....



To,
Professor & Head,
Department of Anatomy,
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Guwahati.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I do hereby express my wish that, after my death, my body be donated to **All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Guwahati**, for the purpose of study and /or research work.

I do hereby make it clear that, my desire of donating the body has been expressed voluntary, without any undue pressure, force, influence or coercion. I have expressed desire by my own, purely out of social responsibility.

I have taken this decision of donating the body out of my own will and wishes and without any pressure or persuasions from any corner and I am physically and mentally fit and of sound mind to execute this as my last will and testaments.

I request you to kindly register my name for the same. I expect that the person / people lawfully in-charge of my body after my death shall respect my wish and would try to execute my last will of donating my body after my death.

I have fully understood the rules and regulations of the **All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Guwahati** in respect of body donation.

Yours sincerely,

(Donor's Full Name & Signature)

BODY DONATION - NO OBJECTION FROM CLOSE RELATIVES *

We, the undersigned, have no objection to donate the body of Shri/Smt.....Aged.....years, after his / her death to All **India Institute of Medical Sciences, Guwahati** for educational and / or research purpose, as per his/her desire.

S. No	Name and address	Relation & Age	Mobile number	Signature
1.				
2.				
3.				

(Please submit ID and address proof of the donor and the signatory relatives)

The body donation will form may be neatly typed on 50-rupee stamp paper and submit at the following address.

(Department of Anatomy, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Silbharal, Guwahati Assam 781101)

DEPARTMENT OF ANATOMY

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES GUWAHATI

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING WHOLE-BODY DONATION

1. What is Whole-Body Donation?

Whole body donation means donating of one's body **VOLUNTARILY** after their death to an approved medical institution for utilisation for medical education and research purpose. The person donating his/her body should be doing so as per his/her wish and not under compulsion.

2. Is Voluntary Whole-Body Donation legal?

Whole body donation is governed by the Anatomy Act, which is "An Act to provide for the supply of unclaimed bodies of deceased persons (or donated bodies or any part thereof of deceased persons) to hospitals and medical teaching institutions for the purpose of anatomical examination and dissection and other similar purposes."

3. Is Organ Donation and Body Donation same?

Organ donation is done by harvesting a healthy organ or tissues from one person (Donor, after brain death), for transplantation, into another person (recipient), who needs such an organ.

In **Whole-Body Donation**, entire body is donated after the death of the person.

4. Can a body utilized for multi-organ donation be accepted for Whole-Body Donation?

No.

5. Why should I consider donating my body?

Whole-body donation is a noble gesture, which is respected beyond any measure. Donated bodies are used for teaching and training the students in a Medical College. This helps in developing knowledge of the students and research creates solutions for various medical problems.

6. Who can donate the body?

Any Indian citizen who is above the age of 18 years and eligible to give a legally valid consent can register themselves under the voluntary whole-body donation program of Department of Anatomy, AIIMS, Guwahati. There is no upper age limit.

If the deceased is not a registered donor, next of kin/guardian/person in lawful possession of the body of the deceased can donate the body of the deceased.

7. Who is a (a) registered donor and (b) unregistered donor?

Registered donor is one who registers himself for voluntary whole-body donation by submitting the will form and other required documents in the department of Anatomy.

Unregistered donor is one who does not register himself and submit the will form in the department of Anatomy, but body is donated by the near relative/legal heir by submitting the required documents with a letter stating the wish/intention of the donor.

7. How to register myself as voluntary Whole-Body donor?

Contact the Department of Anatomy, AIIMS Guwahati. The contact details are mentioned in the page - information for the prospective donors for whole body after death.

The person willing for voluntary body donation has to fill and submit the **WILL FORM** in the department of Anatomy. The **WILL FORM** consists of declaration and consent from the prospective donor and the near relatives of the donor.

8. Can a body of the person be donated even if he/she did not fill the body donation form (unregistered donors)?

Yes. The near relative/ legal heir of the deceased can donate the body and submit the required documents with a letter stating the intension to donate.

9. What is the procedure to follow after the death of the donor (registered or unregistered)?

Inform the Department of Anatomy about the death. The faculty of the Department will ask certain questions regarding the deceased individual and nature of death. If the faculty is satisfied, then the family of the deceased will be asked to submit the following documents, **before the body is handed over to the department.**

The near relative/ legal heir of the deceased has to submit the following documents while handing of the body:

- a) A **body donation consent form**, stating the intension to donate the body of the deceased. This written form should be submitted by the near relative/legal heir/ next of kin of the deceased person.
- b) Copy of Certificate of medical cause of death (**Death certificate**) from a registered medical practitioner.
- c) **No objection certificate** (in original) from local police station. This no objection certificate is not required, if the donor has expired at AIIMS hospital.
- d) **Copy of identity proof** (Voter ID/ Aadhar) of the deceased donor as well as the near relative, who is handing over the body.

Please note:

- i) If the death has occurred at the hospital, then the hospital will provide the Certificate of medical cause of death (death certificate).
- ii) If the death has occurred at the home of the deceased, then a registered medical practitioner needs to be called to the home, to declare the death and for issuing a certificate of medical cause of death (**death certificate**).

10. How to handover the body after death?

The relatives of the deceased donor have to bring the body to the Department of Anatomy by arranging their own medium of transport during working hours. The working hours of the department are as follows.

Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Saturday: 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

Discuss with the faculty for any other clarification.

11. Under what circumstances is a body rejected for donation? / Who cannot donate their body?

The donated bodies may not be accepted, if the donor is diagnosed with following diseases:

- COVID-19
- HIV/AIDS
- Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C
- Tuberculosis
- Prion Disease
- Severe trauma
- All medicolegal cases such as burns, suicide, homicide, road traffic accident and drowning
- Severely decomposed body
- Any objection to donation, from the next of kin of the deceased.

12. How much time can we wait after death before we hand over the body to the department of Anatomy?

The body has to reach the Anatomy Department **within 6-8 hrs after death**, as the process of decomposition starts immediately after death. If there is an expected time delay, then the body can be stored in a dead body freezer box for a certain period of time. It is advised to discuss with the faculty and follow the instructions.

13. Can the organs of the body be used after death?

Yes, the eyes (cornea) can be donated up to 8 hrs after death. The other organs cannot be donated after death.

14. Can we donate the body after post-mortem autopsy?

No. Any medicolegal case, including post-mortem autopsied body will not be accepted as whole-body donation.

15. How is the body preserved for teaching or research purposes?

The body is chemically treated with formalin based preservative solution. The preservation solution fixes the tissues of the body and prevents decomposition. This process is called embalming and it can preserve the body for many years.

16. How do you dispose the body after its utilization?

The body parts will be scientifically disposed, with sensitivity and utmost respect. At all stages of its use, the body will be treated with highest order of respect.

17. Can the body remains/ashes be returned to the relatives after the utilization of the body?

No. It is not possible.

18. Can a relative see the body after donation?

Once the body is donated, relatives cannot see the body.

19. If one of the sons or daughters of the deceased does not agree for the donation, can the donation still be done?

No. The body will not be accepted until all legal heirs/ near relatives/ next of kin unanimously decide about the donation. In case of any discordance, it is not possible to accept body owing to legal complications.

20. Can I withdraw my registration for body donation, at any time later?

Yes. You can withdraw the registration for body donation at any point of time.

21. I am a registered donor. Can my near relatives object to hand over my body after death? / Can anyone revoke my consent to donate my body?

Yes. Even though a person has registered as a voluntary whole-body donor, the final consent should be given by the next of kin/near relative/legal heir of the deceased or the person in lawful possession of the body. Hence, it is important for the donor to discuss their intension to donate their body after their death, with all the near relatives, so that they will carry out the donors' wish of body donation.

22. Can we conduct religious rituals before we handover the body of the donor to the Department of Anatomy?

Yes, the body can be handed over to the Department of Anatomy after all the religious rituals are conducted at the home of the deceased.

23. What documents are given to the relatives after body donation?

After body donation, a certificate of acknowledgement and appreciation for whole-body donation signed by the Competent Authority of the Institution will be given by the Department of Anatomy.

24. Is it possible to donate the body of an orphan or people from old age home, where there are no relatives/legal heirs/next of kin of the deceased?

Only a legal heir/near relative/next of kin of the deceased or an authorised officer (Jurisdictional Police inspector) can donate the body of the deceased to the medical college. **Please contact the faculty of the Department of Anatomy for further information.** The contact details are mentioned in the page - information for the prospective donors for whole body after death.
