

How do we talk about organ donation?

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Why am I standing here?

- Who I am
- Training
- Experience

Why is the conversation important?



- The other side of the beachball
- Who knows the person best?
- Important to get it right for the person, whānau and others



What should any healthcare conversation look like?

- Clear
- Honest
- Consistent
- Respectful
- Structured
- Not rushed
- Compassionate

Key factors

- Preparation
- People
- Training
- Support
- Resources

Responsibility of the ICU doctor

Care of the family/whanau

Care of dying patient

Could this patient become a donor?

Treating the patient with respect

Determination of death

Aftercare of family irrespective of donation

Liaison with donor coordinator

Keeping the patient stable

Discussing option of donation with the family/whanau



Other factors

- Emotion
- Different perspective of health, death, priority
- Different ideas for where conversation is going
- Be patient

What's important?

- Understanding each other
- Respecting each other
- Working together
- Doing justice to the person in the middle who cannot speak for themselves

What's less important?

- Ego
- Driving towards a positive answer, a “yes” at all costs
- Not respecting the process

Bottom line

- Compassion
- Respect
- Acknowledging and honouring the person
- Fairness

Who else talks about organ donation?

- Whānau
- Community
- Media including online sources
(with and without experience)

This is great, everyone can talk about it*

*but there can be consequences: privacy,
incorrect information

Thank you

Colleagues and teachers

Patients and whānau

Questions?

