

# 2019

## Increasing family consent to donation

In 2019 six out of 10 families consented by saying 'yes' to donation

In Australia, like nearly every other country, the family is always asked to consent to organ and tissue donation.

Increasing the number of families saying 'yes' is a key factor to increasing donation. There are two key factors influencing family consent.

### 1 Registration and family knowledge make a difference

Consideration of organ and tissue donation comes at an intensely emotional time for families.

More families consent to donation when their family member is a registered donor. This leaves the family in no doubt they wanted to be a donor.

We can continue to raise the consent rate if more Australians register and talk about donation. Australians aged 16 years and over can register to be a donor on the Australian Organ Donor Register (AODR) at [donatelife.gov.au](http://donatelife.gov.au).

In 2019

9 / 10

families gave consent for donation when their family member was a registered donor

7 / 10

families gave consent for donation when they knew their family member wanted to donate

6 / 10

families gave consent for donation when their family member was not registered and had not discussed donation

Source: DonateLife Audit 2019

### 2 Donation specialists make a difference

More families say 'yes' to donation when they are well informed and supported by a donation specialist nurse or doctor.

Involving a donation specialist when donation is raised with the family in hospital is a key component of clinical best practice. In 2019 a donation specialist was involved in seven out of 10 family conversations about donation.

We can continue to increase consent for donation by involving a donation specialist in every conversation with families about donation, and by providing training to further enhance the skills of donation specialists supporting families to make an informed decision at this difficult time.

In 2019

7 / 10

families gave consent for donation when they were supported by a donation specialist

3 / 10

families gave consent for donation when there was **no** donation specialist involved

Source: DonateLife Audit 2019