



## When a life cannot be saved

Healthcare professionals do all they can to save lives. However, when life supportive measures are no longer helpful, it may be relevant to discuss organ donation with loved ones. A donation of organs and/or tissue after death can save or improve the lives of others.

## Honoring a person's wishes

In cases organ or tissue donation could be possible, it is the healthcare professional's responsibility to find out the patient's wishes regarding potential donation. They start by checking if the patient is registered in the Swedish National Donation Registry (donationsregistret). Also, they ask family members if they know the patient's wishes regarding donation. The healthcare professionals will do all they can to honor the patient's most recently expressed wishes, whether verbal or written. If no wishes have been made, family members may express the patient's wishes in regards to donation. If the family and/or loved ones believe donation would not go against the person's views, the law states that organs and tissues can be donated. Healthcare professionals honor every aspect of a patient's wishes, including those not to donate after death. In those cases, donation will not take place.

