

## 3. Authorisation for Organ/Tissue Donation

- 3.1 Organ / tissue donation is a positive option and can be a comfort at a time of great distress. By not offering family the option to donate, healthcare professionals may deprive family of an opportunity to find comfort during their time of grief.
- 3.2 When considering potential organ / tissue donors, the known wishes of the deceased person are paramount. These may have been expressed by carrying a signed donor card or by registering on the Organ Donor Register. From Autumn 2020, Deemed Authorisation (Presumed Consent) will be considered where there are no known wishes a person was unwilling to consider donation.
- 3.3 All potential organ/tissue donors should be referred to a Specialist Nurse in Organ Donation/Tissue Donor Coordinator as early as possible for consideration for organ/tissue donation.
- 3.4 The Specialist Nurse in Organ Donation/Tissue Donor Coordinator can offer advice on donor identification and suitability, approaching the family and clinical management. They will have access to up-to-date donor criteria including information on donor suitability and will be able to assist with the identification of potential donors.
- 3.5 The Specialist Nurses in Organ Donation/Tissue Donor Coordinators are available 24/7 for advice through the hospital switchboard. Alternatively you can contact the Specialist Nurses in Organ Donation **03000 20 30 40**. You can contact the Tissue Donor Coordinators via their pager on **07623 513987**. Please leave your name and full telephone number including standard dialling code.
- 3.6 If a death has to be reported to the Procurator Fiscal, the Procurator Fiscal must be notified and provide agreement before donation can take place.