

# Australia and New Zealand Organ Donation Registry

**(ANZOD Registry)**

**1999 Report**

[Data collected to 31<sup>st</sup> December 1998]

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## **FUNDING**

ANZOD Registry is funded by

Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council  
New Zealand Ministry of Health  
The Australian Kidney Foundation

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## **SUGGESTED CITATION**

The suggested citation for this report is as follows:

ANZOD Registry Report 1999  
Australia and New Zealand Organ Donation Registry  
Adelaide, South Australia.  
**Editors: K.Herbertt, G.R.Russ.**

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Printed in Adelaide, South Australia, 1999

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ISSN 1329-2889

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Editors would like to thank the Donor Coordinators whose reporting of data has made this 1999 Report possible.

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## **STATISTICAL METHODS**

Actuarial and Kaplan-Meier survivals have been produced using the procedure contained in

SPSS® for Windows™ Release 6.1  
SPSS Inc.





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At the National Forum of Australians Donate held at Parliament House, Canberra, in early April, the main theme was "How to improve the organ donation rate in Australia." Although surveys indicate that 90 per cent of Australians support organ donation and that 60 per cent of the population would themselves be willing to become organ donors (with 30 per cent unsure and requiring further information), the fact is that the organ donation rate in Australia remains among the lowest in the developed world.

It is very pleasing to note that the problem is being addressed, with each State considering how it can best provide the structure to improve the organ donation rate. The annual forums that Australians Donate organise will provide opportunities for health professionals in the relevant fields to come together and discuss the varying approaches being made.

In this edition of the Registry, we again see the large variation between the organ donation rates, ranging from 23 donors per million population down to seven donors per million. The very successful transplantation programs, with their great benefits for the quality of life of the recipients, are also clearly demonstrated. Nevertheless, the long waiting lists for nearly all organ transplants, especially kidney transplants, show the overall insufficiency of organ donation rates in this country.

The care of donor families and recognition of the support they need before, during and after organ donation, was also highlighted at the National Forum. Let us hope that at the next National Forum and also in the statistics compiled in the Australia and New Zealand Organ Donor Registry, we will see a significant improvement in our organ donation rates.

I commend all who work in the field of organ donation and who take up the challenges outlined at the National Forum in April to improve organ donation rates and to give the necessary support and understanding to donor families. Finally, I congratulate the many organ coordinators who have compiled the statistics, and the editors who have provided this clear and concise report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William Deane". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Sir William Deane

Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

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