

Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital Policy

Organ and Tissue Donation

Revised: X

Date:

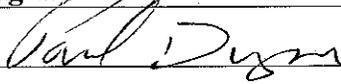
The Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) recognizes New England Organ Bank (NEOB) as the designated regional organ, tissue and eye donation agency and maintains a contract with this agency.

The Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital recognizes the right of every individual to determine the disposition of his/her organs and tissues upon death. When a patient has not made his/her wishes known through a properly executed advanced directive or other document of gift, VPCH shall coordinate with NEOB to discuss with families or other representatives of a potential donor the option to make or refuse to make an anatomical gift and encourage or request donations whenever feasible. Staff of this hospital and the donation agency shall exercise discretion and sensitivity for the circumstances, beliefs and desires of the families of potential donors.

The Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) does not provide services to severely brain injured, ventilator dependent patients meeting the defined criteria for imminent death. Neither does VPCH have an operating room or a morgue. Therefore no organ donations will occur at the Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital.

VPCH shall cooperate with the NEOB and local general hospitals, when necessary, to fulfill a patient's wish to be an organ, eye, and/or tissue donor when a valid advance directive or document of gift exists in accordance with state law.

The Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital shall work cooperatively with the NEOB in educating staff on donation issues.

Approved by:	Signature:	Date:
Paul Dupre, Commissioner, DMH		4-2-14