JCAHO Standards Related to Organ Donation

STANDARD

R1.2 The organization, with the collaborative participation of the medical staff, has established and implemented a policy and mechanism(s) for the procurement and donation of organs and other tissues.

INTENT OF R1.2

The mechanism addressing procurement and donation of organs and other tissues includes at least the following:

- Criteria for identifying potential organ and tissue donors.
- A mechanism for notifying the family of each potential organ and tissue donor of the option to donate or to decline to donate any organs or tissues as well as a mechanism for recording the decision.
- The use of discretion and sensitivity, as appropriate, to the circumstances, beliefs, and desires of the families of potential donors.
- Procedures for directly notifying organ procurement organizations of the potential availability of a human heart, kidney, liver, lung, or pancreas and, as applicable, for directly notifying tissue banks of the potential availability of other organs and tissues. In Department of Defense hospitals, Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, or other federally administered health care agencies, such notification procedures are carried out in accordance with procedures approved by the respective agency.
- If a human heart, kidney, liver, lung, pancreas, or other tissue is procured within a nonfederal organ or tissue procurement organization, the organization is a member of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network established under section 372 of the Public Health Service Act and abides by its rules and regulations. If such organs or other tissues are procured in Department of Defense hospitals, Veterans Affairs medical centers, or other federally administered healthcare agencies, such organizations are appropriately designated for this activity by the respective agency.
- The organization identifies the organ or tissue procurement agency with which it is affiliated.
- The organization can provide forms that have been completed by patients and/or their families that indicate that they accept the patients’ becoming potential organ or tissue donors. There is also evidence that the families have declined patients’ becoming potential organ and tissue donors (for example, staff members document this decision in the patients’ medical records).
- The organization can provide lists of potential organ donors that have been sent to organ or tissue procurement organizations.

EXAMPLE OF IMPLEMENTATION - R1.2

Specially trained members of the organization’s bioethics staff act as counselors for the families of potential donors and interface with the appropriate agencies.
EXAMPLES OF EVIDENCE OF PERFORMANCE - R1.2

- Document review of policies and procedures or other mechanisms concerning procurement and donation of organs and other tissues.
- Contract or affiliation agreement with organ or tissue procurement agency
- Lists of potential organ donors.
- Interviews with clinical staff
- Review of patient medical records
- Interviews with patients and families

SCORING OF R1.2

Score 1  The organization has a functioning mechanism in place to address the procurement and donation of organs and other tissues that includes the eight issues addressed in the intent.

Score 3  The organization has a functioning mechanism in place to address the procurement and donation of organs and other tissues; however, one of the eight issues in the intent is not addressed.

Score 5  The organization does not have a functioning mechanism in place to address the procurement and donation of organs and other tissues that includes the eight issues addressed in the intent.

OR  Two or more of the eight issues listed in the intent are not addressed.