

Does my religion prevent brain donation?

Most religions are not against a person donating their brain to research. Even after a brain donation, a person can have an open casket funeral.

If you are wondering more about your religion and brain donation, please go to this web site:
<https://organdonor.gov/about/donors/religion.html>



Questions?
Please contact us:



How can I find out more?

To find out more about the Down syndrome Brain Donation program at DSBC, please contact your local health care clinic, hospital, or send inquiries to:



Facts about Brain Donation

For people with Down syndrome and their families

From the Down Syndrome Biobank Consortium



UC Irvine
University of Kentucky
Barrow Neurological Institute
Barcelona Sant Pau Hospital
University of Colorado
New York University
Cambridge University
Karolinska Institutet
Medical University of South Carolina

What is dementia?

Dementia is a brain illness that leads to memory impairment. To understand this illness and come up with new treatment options, researchers need to study the brain. Brain donation improves our understanding of what happens in the brain of someone with Down syndrome (DS), while giving hope to the DS community.



Why is brain tissue needed?

The human brain is complex and difficult to study in living people. Research into conditions that affect the brain has to be done in tissue donated after death. A better understanding is the first key step towards new treatments.



What is involved in brain donation?

An autopsy is the examination of brain tissue after death by a specialist called a pathologist and will be performed as soon as possible AFTER the person has passed. Brain donation does not leave any marks on the hairline or face.



Who can donate?

Because dementia research depends on all types of brain tissue, including those with no obvious disease, anyone over the age of **18** can register to be a donor. A person's next of kin can consent to a brain donation, if the person is unable to do this on their own.



About the DS Biobank consortium

The consortium consists of 12 different research groups who have devoted their research to Down syndrome. By working together, we can unlock the mysteries around trisomy 21 and allow those with this condition to live healthy lives.