VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY
RESOLUTION

Anatomical Gifts

Submitted to VMS Council by Michael Scollins - September 7, 2010

WHEREAS, the lives and quality of life of patients with end-state organ failure depend on the availability of transplantable organs; and

WHEREAS, to discharge their obligations to hold their patients’ interests paramount and to support access to medical care, physicians should participate in efforts to increase organ donation; and

WHEREAS, there are clearly individuals who will seriously consider the option of live organ donation (e.g. kidney or bone marrow) if they are aware of the need; therefore be it

RESOLVED, VMS will encourage and support efforts to educate health care professionals and the public about the unmet need for anatomical gifts; and about how to make and register anatomical gifts as a living or deceased donor, and be it further

RESOLVED, VMS will collaborate with organizations the Vermont Kidney Association (VKA), the Transplant Donor Network (TDN) support group and the Vermont Department of Health to encourage the creation of a statewide registry for living donors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that VMS work with the Departments of Health and Motor Vehicles to establish a program in Vermont that would permit potential living organ donors to indicate at the time of drivers license application or renewal, an interest in pursuing the possibility of live organ donation; and be it further

RESOLVED, VMS work to ensure that any registry or donation program for living donors follows the informed consent process outlined in AMA Ethical Opinion E-2.15, Transplantation of Organs from Living Donors.¹