



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ANATOMICAL DONATION PROGRAM**

### **Prior to Enrollment:**

*You must have completed and signed the anatomical donation form*

### **Designation or placement of the body to a program or an institution:**

*The donor, in advance, should state in their will to have his body donated to an anatomical donation program or to a medical school.*

### **Is there payment made for the donation of the body?**

*No.*

### **Shared donated bodies?**

*The willed body, a great resource, may be used in any of the NYU School of Medicine Anatomical or Surgical Programs.*

### **Reasons for the rejection of bodies:**

*Although, not an absolute, the following is a guide for not accepting a bequeathed body -*

- Autopsied body*
- Embalmed body other than NYU's own procedures*
- Infectious diseases*
- Other conditions ; - recent operations where the wound has not healed, obesity, gangrene, organ donation, or any conditions which may make the body unsuitable for anatomical study.*

### **Is a funeral ceremony allowed before donation of the body?**

*No, the body must be transported to the School of Medicine as soon as possible, following death, for immediate embalming. A memorial service, without the presence of the body, is suggested.*

### **Is there a cost to the family, heirs or estate?**

*All costs related to the transportation of the body will be assumed by the School of Medicine if the donor died in the City of New York. The School will **not** be responsible for the cost of transportation of remains outside the mentioned area. All other expenses, including burial, will be the responsibility of the family, heirs or estate.*

### **How long will the donated body remain at the NYU School of Medicine?**

*Approximately 24 months.*

### **How will the family, heirs or estate be notified that the remains have been received?**

*An acknowledgment letter that the donor's body was received by the School of Medicine will be sent to the family.*

### **What happens with the donor's remains?**

*The School of Medicine reserves the right to cremate the body and will bear all costs associated with cremation and return of the remains to the family. The cremated remains will either be returned to the family or scattered at the Garden of Remembrance at Rosehill Cemetery. The School of Medicine is **not**, however, responsible for burial costs when the remains are returned to the family.*

*When the Anatomical study nears completion, the School of Medicine will contact the next of kin or the executor for the return of the donor's ashes in a timely and proper manner. If the ashes remain unclaimed by the next of kin for more than **45 days** from the date on the letter, the School of Medicine reserves the right to spread the ashes at the Garden of Remembrance at Rosehill Cemetery.*

**If you have any questions concerning our Anatomical Donation Program please contact us at the address below.**