

The decision to donate your body to further medical education is not an easy one and it is not for everyone. To have concerns and some hesitancy is only normal. There is no formula for how to arrive at your decision, but you may be sure there is a tremendous need for donations to be used in our medical student training programs both on the main campus and in Brown's affiliated hospitals. Hopefully, this brochure will supply the answers to some of the questions you may have regarding our Anatomical Gift Program

Your Gift to Brown

Few of us know how to arrange to leave our bodies for anatomical studies. This brochure supplies this information and answers some of the many questions you may have regarding our Anatomical Gift Program. The first step is to complete the front and back side of the donor form and return to:



Anatomical Gift Program
The Warren Alpert Medical School of
Brown University
Box G-B204
Providence, RI 02912

*Anatomical
Gift Program*

Upon completion of these forms, your name will be placed in our files so that at the time of death, all arrangements will have been made. When you sign the forms, in the presence of two witnesses, they become written instruments which satisfy all requirements of the law governing such gifts. We recommend that the bequest not be included in your Will, as wills are usually not opened and executed until after a funeral and burial procedures have been completed. You may wish to give a copy of the signed forms to a friend or loved one as a way of assuring that transport of your gift to Brown be done efficiently. You will also receive a donor card to be carried in your wallet at all times. Should you become ill and need hospitalization or nursing home care, let your doctor/nurse know what your wishes are.



BROWN
Alpert Medical School

THE NEED FOR BODIES AFTER DEATH

Dissection of the human body in medical schools constitutes an invaluable part of medical education and research. Each year a number of bodies are needed for the teaching of medical students. The principal source of bodies is private donation.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can donate?

Competent persons over 18 years of age can arrange to donate their bodies for medical education and research.

Does registration insure that my body will be accepted at the time of my death?

No. Brown reserves the right to decline a donation at the time of death if the remains are deemed unsuitable for educational purposes, or if the number of donations exceeds Brown's ability to accommodate them. For example, a body is unsuitable for study if it has been autopsied or embalmed. Additional conditions that may render a body unsuitable include: a communicable disease, extensive trauma at the time of death, extreme obesity or malnutrition.

May I withdraw at any time?

Yes. Please notify us in writing that you wish to withdraw from the program.

What about autopsies or organ donations?

In order for us to accept a body, the body must remain intact after death. We cannot accept a body donation if an autopsy has been performed or if organs have been removed.

Does Brown perform autopsies?

We do not perform autopsies nor are we able to

WHEN THE TIME COMES

When death occurs, your next of kin, executor or physician needs to contact Monahan, Drabble & Sherman Funeral Home at (401) 421-9887. If death occurs outside of the State of Rhode Island or at a distance greater than a 45-mile radius from Providence, Brown will not be able to accept the donation unless transportation of the unembalmed body can be quickly arranged. The cost of transportation outside of the 45-mile radius must be absorbed by the estate of the donor. Should Brown be unable to accept the body, we suggest contacting the nearest medical school to inquire about its need for donations. Further, if you know in advance that you will be living part-time in another state you should contact the Anatomical Gift Program in that state to arrange for donation.

Alternate arrangements

Please discuss alternate plans with your family, in the event that we cannot accept the gift of your body at the time of your death.

The Gathering of Family and Friends

Traditional funeral services are not possible because the donation must be received by Brown as soon as possible following death. In most cases, families choose to have a memorial service. Upon completion of our studies, which may take as long as two to three years, the remains are cremated. Cremated remains are typically returned to the donor's family. If you do not wish your ashes reclaimed by the family, Brown will make alternate arrangements. If you wish interment to occur at a special time or in a private plot, you can arrange to have your ashes claimed by a friend, family member or funeral director. Expenses associated with these arrangements must be absorbed by your estate.

Financial considerations

Upon acceptance of a body donation, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University will be financially responsible for the following:

- Removal of the body
- Transportation of the body to Brown
- Permits for transportation and cremation
- Cremation

The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University is not responsible for funerals, obituaries, or other services not specifically mentioned above.

TO CLOSE

Neither you nor your estate is asked to provide financial help to prepare and process your Anatomical Gift. We do want you to know, however, that financial support is always needed and welcomed.

To help defray our donor program costs, and to support our student research projects, we have established the Anatomy Research Fund. These monies not only support the research itself but are used to help students disseminate what they have learned to the scientific/medical community. If you would like to make a monetary contribution to the Anatomy Research Fund, please make a check payable to Brown University and send it to Anatomy Research Fund, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Box G-B204, Providence, RI 02912.

We realize you may have further questions regarding the Program which may not be addressed in this brochure. Please feel free to contact us at (401) 863-9029.

*Ms. Shannon Silva, Coordinator
Prof. Elizabeth Brainerd, Director*

Anatomical Gift Program
The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
Box G-B204
Providence, Rhode Island 02912
401-863-9029



BROWN
Alpert Medical School

Anatomical Gift Program

It is the end of a long semester, and the young faces of the medical students show signs of fatigue and strain which reflect the students' hard work in the past weeks. But in those same faces there is much promise, optimism and enthusiasm for the future as they pause in their busy schedules to give thanks. The occasion is a voluntary gathering when the students pay "tribute" to those thoughtful persons responsible for enriching and changing their lives forever.