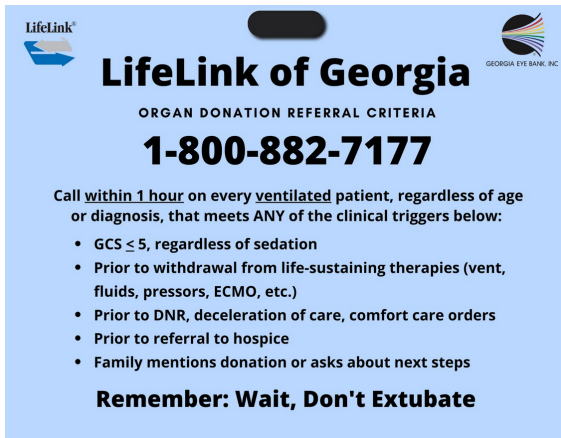


# Family Readiness Assessment for an Interaction with LifeLink® of Georgia

## Clinical Triggers for Making an Organ Referral

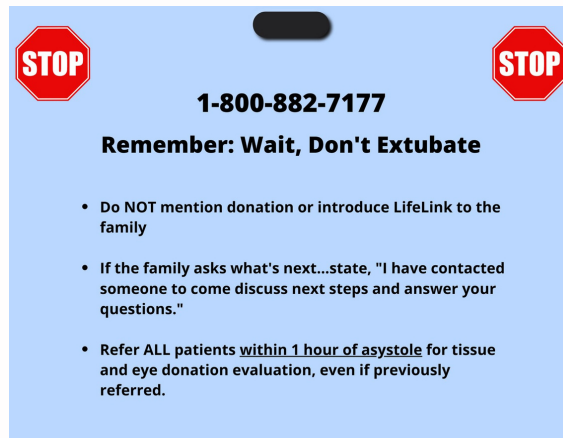


**LifeLink of Georgia**  
ORGAN DONATION REFERRAL CRITERIA  
**1-800-882-7177**

Call within 1 hour on every ventilated patient, regardless of age or diagnosis, that meets ANY of the clinical triggers below:

- GCS  $\leq$  5, regardless of sedation
- Prior to withdrawal from life-sustaining therapies (vent, fluids, pressors, ECMO, etc.)
- Prior to DNR, deceleration of care, comfort care orders
- Prior to referral to hospice
- Family mentions donation or asks about next steps

**Remember: Wait, Don't Extubate**



**1-800-882-7177**

**Remember: Wait, Don't Extubate**

- Do NOT mention donation or introduce LifeLink to the family
- If the family asks what's next...state, "I have contacted someone to come discuss next steps and answer your questions."
- Refer ALL patients within 1 hour of asystole for tissue and eye donation evaluation, even if previously referred.

## What is a Family Readiness Assessment?

A notification to the LifeLink Donor Referral Line (1-800-882-7177) when the care team recognizes cues from the family, through questions, statements, or discussions, that indicate understanding that their loved one's prognosis is poor or terminal. **This allows LifeLink to assess the family's readiness for a donation discussion, and allows the family appropriate time to consider and plan for donation (only LifeLink staff should discuss donation with families).**

## Indicators the family is ready for an interaction with LifeLink:

### Family is saying:

- He/She/They wouldn't want to live on a ventilator.
- We/I can't see Him/Her/Them like this anymore.
- Language about their loved one in the past tense, example; "I remember when..."
- How bad the prognosis is with other relatives or friends at the hospital or over the phone.
- Language related to the possibility of ending life-supporting treatment.

### Family is asking:

- What's next?
- What happens if everything is stopped? Will He/She/They ever be able to do things again?
- For additional visitation time to say goodbye.
- To call family from out of town.
- For a chaplain, palliative care or hospice.
- For financial assistance related to end-of-life planning.
- About funeral arrangements.
- More questions about comfort care than treatment.
- To meet with the doctors for information regarding the treatment plan.

## Next Steps

**Call the LifeLink Donor Referral Line (1-800-882-7177) immediately with a change in the plan of care or in advance of discussions with the family when:**

- Any of the above indicators are recognized.
- A palliative care/hospice meeting is scheduled.
- The patient may be herniating.
- Donation has been mentioned.