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| **Donation Case Length Considerations** |

Thank you for your work to date as the Most Responsible Critical Care Physician for a potential/ consented donor in your ICU.

**Transplant recipient operating room capacity remains restricted, which may result in a longer time from consent to organ recovery operations. Recipient admission requirements may result in the need to modify organ recovery timing. We are asking for your patience in this regard.**

As you may know, during the COVID-19 pandemic, difficult decisions were made in consideration of recipient and public safety. Organ and tissue recovery and transplant have been scaled back since mid-March. The donation opportunities lost during this time are not recoverable. Ontario still has a significant wait list for organ transplantation and with the return of elective surgeries, the need for other tissues is beginning to increase.

As the pandemic eases, and as we have learned more about the virus and its risks to transplant patients, transplant centres have begun to ease some restrictions in an effort to begin addressing the increasing waiting list of potential recipients. Organ donation opportunities have been increasing as we gradually return to more usual transplant volumes. However, all transplant hospitals are working with reduced surgical resources.

We recognize this may place a burden on your critical care unit during an uncertain time in which critical care capacity must be protected. In the event you have concerns, please contact the on-call donation support physician who is available to speak to you or a member of your hospital leadership team through the Provincial Resource Centre at any time [1-877-363-8456].

Thank you.

 

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