

## WHAT TESTING IS REQUIRED?

If you agree to donate your femoral head, blood and bone samples will be collected during your surgery and tested in the laboratory.

Your blood is tested for a range of infectious diseases including Hepatitis B & C, HIV (AIDS) and Syphilis. Microbiology and histopathology testing is conducted on the bone samples.

Once collected, your bone will be sent to PlusLife from the operating theatre then quarantined and stored for a minimum period of 6 months following your surgery. Every necessary check will be made to ensure that the bone is safe and suitable for transplant.

Approximately 6 months after your surgery, we will contact you to enquire if there have been any changes to your medical history including any surgeries, procedures, or medical diagnoses. A 6 month blood test may be requested, which can be completed at your convenience and no cost to you.

This final step is to ensure that your donation is suitable to process for transplantation purposes. Your bone donation cannot proceed to processing and transplantation unless completed.

If any abnormalities are found in any tests we conduct, we will send a copy of the results to your GP and advise you to make an appointment to discuss them with your Doctor.



## WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND ABOUT DONATING?

You may withdraw your consent at any time up until the bone is transplanted. If you change your mind or have any concerns about the donation process, simply notify our Donor Liaison personnel. No questions will be asked.



Join the many Australians enhancing the lives of others through bone and tissue donation.

For more information, please contact us:

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INFORMATION FOR  
HIP REPLACEMENT RECIPIENTS:

# All you need to know about femoral head bone donation

PlusLife is a not-for-profit organisation  
All our allografts are 100% donated and processed in Australia



Enhancing lives  
because of you

# Femoral head bone donation

**Donated bone and tissue can be life changing for both donors and recipients. Bone graft procedures are very common, second only to blood transfusions.**

**The demand for human bone graft materials continues to grow rapidly and the impact is both wide-ranging and vital.**

**With your donation, someone stands a chance at living a better life.**

## WHAT IS PLUSLIFE?

PlusLife (Perth Bone & Tissue Bank Inc.) is a not-for-profit organisation responsible for the collection, screening, storage and distribution of donated human bone and tissue grafts for transplant purposes.

Surgery which requires bone graft is common. Your donation can assist people who need surgical procedures such as spinal surgery for adolescents, hip and knee revisions, bone tumours and repair of bone defects.



Image shows excised femoral head

## WHAT IS FEMORAL HEAD DONATION?

The femoral head is the ball part of the hip joint which is routinely removed and discarded during hip replacement surgery. With your consent, this bone can be donated to PlusLife and used for transplant purposes.

Bone donation is voluntary and does not alter in any way how your surgery is performed. There is no age limit and no cost incurred by you.

## HOW CAN I BECOME A BONE DONOR?

In most cases your Surgeon or Hospital will refer you to our Donor Liaison personnel or alternatively, you may refer yourself. A Donor Liaison staff member will then contact you to explain the donation process and assist you in completing the required documentation.

You will be required to complete a femoral head donation consent form questionnaire (similar to that required for blood donation). This form will be provided to you by your Surgeon's rooms, hospital pre-admission clinic or directly from PlusLife.

It is a legal requirement that we have your permission to collect your bone and conduct the required laboratory tests. Once you have completed the questionnaire, you must sign and then return it to PlusLife prior to your surgery.

On receipt of your consent form questionnaire, Donor Liaison personnel will conduct a telephone interview with you to review your responses and record your consent at the completion of the interview.

You may also receive a visit from the Donor Liaison in hospital following your operation.

## WHAT INFORMATION WILL I NEED TO PROVIDE ON THE CONSENT FORM QUESTIONNAIRE?

All questions on the consent form relate to your medical and social history. These questions are necessary to enable us to obtain a full history from you. This assists in reducing the risk of disease transmission to patients who require grafts.

Occasionally we may need to access your medical records to obtain further health history.

## REASONS WHY YOU CANNOT DONATE

Unfortunately, you cannot donate if you have:

- Past or present cancer such as breast or prostate cancer
- Past or present skin cancers such as Squamous Cell Carcinoma or Melanoma
- Lived or frequently visited the United Kingdom for 6 months or more between 1980 and 1996 (Creutzfeldt- Jakob disease/Mad Cow disease)
- Autoimmune disorders such as Psoriasis, Type 1 Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus or Rheumatoid Arthritis (Osteoarthritis is accepted)
- Paget's disease or Ankylosing Spondylitis
- Received an organ transplant or human growth hormone
- Neurological disorders such as Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, Dementia or Alzheimers
- Some sexually transmitted diseases
- Hepatitis B or C, HIV (AIDS)

**PlusLife Donor Liaison**  
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