

COVID-19 Pandemie Fact sheet concerning donors

Deceased organ donors

PCR diagnostics must have been carried out on all potential donors to exclude the possibility of COVID-19 infection (preferably using BAL or an oro- or nasopharyngeal swab) and recorded in the SOAS. The test result must be available before the organs can be transplanted. If the PCR test is positive, organs must not be allocated. If the test cannot be performed in the hospital in which the organ or tissue is removed, the Swisstransplant National Transplant Coordination must be contacted on +41 58 123 80 40.

If a PCR test is already available, it cannot be more than 72 hours old when entry of the donor is first made in the SOAS. A repeat test is required if the time window exceeds 72 hours.

Deceased tissue donors:

To exclude the possibility of COVID-19 infection, PCR diagnostics must be carried out in the respiratory tract of all tissue donors using an oro- or nasopharyngeal swab no later than 24 hours after death. The test result must be available before the tissue is released in the tissue bank. If the test result is positive, the tissue must be destroyed immediately and the Swisstransplant National Allocation Office must be informed.

Living donors:

PCR diagnostics must have been carried out on all living donors prior to organ removal to exclude the possibility of COVID-19 infection (oro- or nasopharyngeal swab). The test cannot be more than 72 hours old. A repeat test is required if the time window exceeds 72 hours. If the PCR test on the living donor is positive, the organ removal must not be carried out. If the test cannot be performed in the hospital in which the organ or tissue is removed, the Swisstransplant National Transplant Coordination must be contacted on +41 58 123 80 40.

Foreign offers are primarily evaluated by the Medical Director in close collaboration with the international partner organizations. Swisstransplant retains the right to suspend certain services until further notice.

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