

Recommended Teaching Steps
2 sessions (35 - 40 minutes each)

Recommended to teach the core parts marked with ★ first. The parts without ★ can be skipped if there is not enough time.

Activity/Game

★ Activity/Game 1:

Learning about Organ Donation

- (1) Distribute worksheet of quiz game to students, teachers may prepare google form themselves for use of students.
- (2) Allow 10 minutes for students to answer.
- (3) Invite students to speak out their answers, or indicate with a show of hands. If google form is used, the results can be presented all at once.
- (4) After giving out the answers, teachers can explain further on the respective topic.

Activity 1 Concept

The game is conducted in an interactive manner where students are first encouraged to think about the answers, followed by detailed explanation from teachers. It is hoped that students will have a better understanding on the subject through an interesting way of learning.

PowerPoint for Teaching



Session 1

- ★ 1. **Warm-up:** Ask students whether they know what “organ donation” is and how much do they know about it. Let students answer freely. Conduct **(Activity/Game 1)**, after finishing the quiz, teachers can explain the key messages in detail under the following topics and directions:

[1] Background Information on Organ Donation

[1.1] What is organ donation?

- **What are the functions of organs?** (Our organs have specific functions for maintaining daily operation of our body.)
- **Who needs organ transplant?** (Patients suffering from organ failure because of congenital or acquired diseases.)
- **Is it essential for patient with organ failure to receive organ transplant?** (For patient with organ failure, his/her organ is damaged by disease, leading to dysfunctioning of the organ. Medication can only act as a supportive treatment, and the patient can only recover with organ transplant.)

[1.2] Organs suitable for donation

- **Which organs/tissues are suitable for donation?** (Kidney, liver, lung, heart, long bone, cornea and skin)
- **Where do the organs come from?** (Living or cadaveric donation)
- **Which organs are suitable for living donation?** (Kidney and liver. Given that living donors are exposed to surgical risk, medical personnels do not normally encourage living donation when other options are available.)



[2] Difficulties encountered in Hong Kong

[2.1] Current situation

- **How many patients are waiting for organ transplant every day?** [There are more than 2,000 patients in Hong Kong waiting for suitable organs for transplantation every day. In 2020, there were only 42 cadaveric donors and 33 living donors in Hong Kong.]

[2.2] Public perception

- **Do our traditional belief and culture support organ donation?** [Chinese people have a traditional belief that one must “keep an intact body after death”. That has brought about certain resistance to the promotion of organ donation.]
- **Are Hong Kong people more willing or less willing to donate their organs than people from other places?** [The donation rate in Hong Kong is rather low and comparable to that of other regions/ countries in Southeast Asia. There is a big difference when compared with some western countries with high donation rates, such as Spain and the United States.]

[2.3] Misconceptions

- **Are patients not allowed to donate organs?** [It depends on the case. Some patients can donate their organs.]
- **Is there an age limit for organ donation?** [There is no strict age limit for cadaveric donation. In general, organs may be donated by a person as young as a newborn or as old as 75. For tissue donation, the age limit is below 80 for corneas, between 16 and 60 for long bones and 10 or above for skin. For living donation, donors must be aged 18 or above under the Human Organ Transplant Ordinance of Hong Kong.]
- **Once I register as an organ donor, the medical personnel will not save me if I am injured in an accident?** [Absolutely not. Medical personnels will try their best to save you.]
- **My religious belief does not allow me to donate my organs?** [Most religions encourage sharing or giving. Religions such as Buddhism, Taoism, Catholicism, Christianity and Islam recognize the spirit of organ donation and regard it as an act of benevolence and merit.]

[2.4] Family's wish

- **Does the family of the deceased person have the right to object donating the organs?** [Even if the deceased has already registered as an organ donor, if the family members decide not to donate, the medical personnel will respect the wish of the family.]
- **Is family support important?** [It is very important. Even if the deceased was willing to donate, that cannot be done if the family of the deceased does not support the donation. On the contrary, if the deceased has not expressed objection to donating his/her organs when alive, the family can make the final decision on behalf of the deceased.]

(3) System and procedures of organ donation

(3.1) Donation system

- **Are all deceased persons eligible to donate their organs?** [Currently, “brain death” is the criterion for cadaveric donation in Hong Kong. Only tissues such as corneas and skin are accepted from donors of cardiac death.]
- **What donation system is currently adopted in Hong Kong?** [The “opt-in” donation system is currently adopted in Hong Kong, which means that people who wish to donate their organs after death have to voluntarily register as an organ donor when alive.]
- **Are there other systems besides the “opt-in” system?** [Yes, there is another system called “opt-out”. The “opt-out” system assumes that people agree to donate their organs after death. Those who do not agree must register their wish not to donate organs when alive. Otherwise, they will automatically become donors in appropriate circumstances after death. The “opt-out” system is adopted in some countries, such as Spain and Singapore. There are two approaches under this system, the “soft” and the “hard” approach. In the “soft” approach, consent of the deceased family has to be sought irrespective of whether the deceased person has raised objection to donate when alive [as in Spain]. While under the “hard” approach, the decision made by the deceased when alive will be followed, and family members do not have the legal right to oppose to his/her decision [as in Singapore].]
- **How can we register as an organ donor?** [We can sign up at the Centralised Organ Donation Register (CODR) of the Department of Health as an organ donor. It can be done by registering at CODR website, or completing the registration form and submit it by post or fax to the CODR System Administrator.]
- **Is there an age limit for registering as a cadaveric organ donor?** [There is no age limit for registering as a cadaveric organ donor on CODR. However, make sure that you tell your family about your wish to donate organs after death.]

(3.2) Procedures of organ donation

- **What are the current procedures of organ donation?**

Recommend to make use of the donation procedure flowchart to help explain the process, refer to the “Teacher’s Reference” section of this toolkit on page 139.

[“Brain death” is the medical criterion for organ donation in Hong Kong. When a patient is suspected to be brain dead, organ donation can only be carried out after going through the following procedures:

1. Two senior doctors who have no relationship with organ transplant matters are required to conduct two separate tests to confirm the diagnosis of brain death;
2. Medical personnel inform an Organ Transplant Coordinator (OTC) and initiate communication with the patient’s family, providing support and counselling service;



3. Medical team assess and maintain the functions of the deceased's organs;
4. Consent of the deceased's family to donate organs is obtained;
5. Conduct relevant checks and matches to confirm the organs' suitability for donation;
6. Arrange for organ/tissue harvesting and transplantation;
7. Return the body to the ward;
8. The OTC accompanies the donor's family to bid the last farewell)

For more detailed information on organ donation, please refer to the "Teachers' Reference" section of this toolkit on pages 135 - 137.

For students who are interested in finding out more about organ donation, they are advised to visit the Organ Donation webpage of HKOTF and Department of Health.

Recommended time for teaching + quiz:
about 20 - 25 minutes in total

2. After finishing the quiz, recommend teachers to play the video created by secondary school students **[Activity/Game 2]**. Ask students to pay attention to the messages involved.
- ★ 3. After watching the videos, ask students to share their feelings. Guide them to think and discuss, and bring out the right message about organ donation. The videos cover different key points, including:
 - [1] Champion 《舞·創奇蹟》** — At first, the female protagonist did not understand the meaning of organ donation. She believed that it was a respect to the deceased to keep their body intact. Later when she met her dance partner who regained his life because of organ transplant, she realized the value of organ donation. Teachers can focus on the change of mind of the

Activity/Game

★ Activity/Game 2:

Organ Donation • Love Continued

Recommend to watch the following award-winning videos of the "Love • Continued" Secondary Schools Short Video Competition organised by Hong Kong Organ Transplant Foundation (length of videos: about 3 mins).

Activity 2 Concept

The award-winning videos of the "Love • Continued" Secondary Schools Short Video Competition illustrate the understanding and feelings of the younger generation on organ donation, while at the same time carrying messages which allow teachers to discuss with their students and guide them to think about the meaning behind.

[1] Champion 《舞·創奇蹟》

With the video, explain the basic concepts of organ donation.

<https://youtu.be/OaL9cVI7JVw>

Related to topics [1] and [2.2]

female protagonist and explain that the true respect to her brother is to donate his organs. Teachers should also take note of the statement made by the male protagonist (the elder brother) when alive, that he just “wanted to help others” instead of “being a hero”. A simple thought of “helping others” can be a motivation for organ donation.

(2) 1st Runner-up & Online Voting Award 《豬肝皆可》 — A family member of the female protagonist needed an organ for transplant, so she intended to find a doctor in the black market to carry out the surgery. Use this video to point out the importance of telling right from wrong, and not believing in hearsays. Students should learn the correct information about organ transplant and rectify misconceptions, such as the nature of organ donation which should not be regarded as a trade. Also, the use of animal organ for transplant as shown in the video is not medically feasible at present. It was to depict the problem of long waiting list and serious shortage of organs for transplant in Hong Kong in a sarcastic way. We need more willing donors to solve this problem.

(3) 2nd Runner-up 《眼界》 — The protagonist suffered from corneal damage and could not see clearly. Fortunately, she was taken care of by her elder sister, who was very close to her. Later, her sister passed away and donated the corneas to her. She regained her vision after that. Teachers can focus on the true meaning of organ donation, which is to pass on love. Although the protagonist could no longer be looked after by her sister, through donation of her cornea, she passed on her love such that the protagonist can regain her vision and feel grateful for the rest of her life. This has demonstrated the true meaning of organ donation.

(4) Merits 《彩虹橋》 — The female protagonist recalled a childhood memory when her father donated her mother's organs after she passed away. She did not understand at that time and was even resentful to her father's decision. When she later had to make a decision, she could finally understand why her father did that and realised the importance of family support in organ donation. With the video, explain the importance of family support and that we should stand in other people's shoes and respect the wish of the deceased to donate their organs and pass on their love.

Activity/Game

(2) 1st Runner-up & Online Voting Award 《豬肝皆可》

With the video, explain that organ donation is not a commercial activity and there is a serious shortage of organs for transplant.

<https://youtu.be/UYyNwMlhDvE>

Related to topics (1.2), (2.1) and (2.3)

(3) 2nd Runner-up 《眼界》

With the video, explain that the meaning of organ donation is to pass on love.

<https://youtu.be/5LiVduNwrYA>

Related to topic (1)

(4) Merits 《彩虹橋》

With the video, explain the general misconceptions and the importance of family support.

<https://youtu.be/TGAfs77U9S4>

Related to topics (1) and (2.4)

Teachers can also choose other award-winning videos:

Merit 《現在有所改變》

https://youtu.be/Tfts_vtrtH2s

Merits 《心願》

<https://youtu.be/6dAb5Z2nIRU>



- ★ 4. **Summary:** According to the themes presented in the different videos, elaborate on the concepts about organ donation, and briefly summarise the relevant key learning points, including:
- A true respect to a deceased person is to pay respect to his/her wish. Elaborate on the following: **(related to topic 1 and 2.2)**
 - The spirit of self-sacrifice is a part of Chinese culture, there is no need to be obsessed with the idea of “keeping an intact body after death”
 - Most religions recognize the spirit of organ donation as an act of love
 - We should tell our family if we have the intention to become a donor
 - Acquire correct information about organ transplant. Elaborate on the following: **(related to topic 1 and 2.3)**
 - Clarify the misconception: Medical personnel will not delay treatment to a patient deliberately so as to obtain his/her organs
 - Clarify the misconception: Organ Donation will not disfigure the body of the donor
 - Donating organs is to pass on a legacy of love . Elaborate on the following: **(related to topic 1 and 1.1)**
 - Organ donation is meaningful as it helps people regain their life
 - Organ donation does not only serve the purpose of sustaining life, it represents a continuation of the meaning of life
 - The support and understanding of family members are very important in the process of organ donation. Elaborate on the following: **(related to topic 1 and 2.4)**
 - There are quite a number of cases in Hong Kong where donation of organ was unsuccessful due to objection from family members of the deceased. Therefore, those who wish to donate organs after death should tell your family about your wish.

Recommended time for teaching + video + student interaction: about 10 - 15 minutes in total

End here for Session 1 for non-consecutive lessons