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Title : Gujarat man's kidneys, liver now live in 3 city men

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21-Year-Old Died After Falling Off Train, 1st Cadaver Donation Of 2016

The city recorded its first cadaver donation of the year after the family of a 21-year-old man from Umbergaon in Gujarat consented to donate his kidneys and liver on Tuesday . One of the recipients was a 34-year-old Chembur resident, living with a single failed kidney and desperately waiting for a donor.

The donor from a poor family in Umbergaon was headed to Mumbai on January 6 when he fell off a train near Vapi station and sustained serious head injuries. He was rushed to Nanavati Hospital in Vile Parle where doctors declared him brain-dead on Monday . The family members, with little education and no prior knowledge of organ donation, wasted no time in agreeing to donate their son's organs once they were approached by the hospital's social workers.

One of his kidneys was transplanted into a 48-year-old man in Nanavati Hospital and the second into a 34-year-old man at Lilavati Hospital.

“The recipient was born with only one kidney . He suffered from a kidney failure about a decade ago and has been undergoing dialysis ever since,” said Dr Sharad Shah, transplant coordinator at Lilavati Hospital, adding that the patient was recovering well after surgery . The donor liver was transplanted into a 51-year-old man at Global Hospital in Parel. A hospital source said the family was even willing to donate his heart but it was not fit to be transplanted.

“The boy came to us with a clot in the brain. He was in coma right from the beginning. It was tough for the family to accept it but they came around. They were very forthcoming when the idea of organ donation was explained to them,” said Dr Harshad Parekh, consultant neurological surgeon at Nanavati Hospital who treated the donor.

More than 110 end-stage organ failure patients got a fresh lease of life last year as the cadaver transplant programme touched an all-time high with 42 donations. ZTCC secretary general Dr Sujata Patwardhan said the programme in 2016 will hopefully see more donations. “We are looking forward to receiving more funds from the Centre. Our first priority will be to appoint more transplant coordinators for public hospitals as most private hospitals have a team in place,” she added. Around 95% of cadaver donations last year were carried out at private hospitals.

The organ donation programme in the city and across the country is likely to get a boost with the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) assuming a more active role. A lot of work is already in progress to set up the Regional Organ and Tissue Transplantation Organizations (ROTTO) and State Organ and Tissue Transplantation Organisation (SOTTO) to coordinate things at a more local level. The ROTTO office for the western region is coming up at KEM Hospital in Parel.

Patwardhan said the scheme of things will also include a tissue bank to store heart valves, bones and other soft tissues. The Union health ministry has already committed to a sum of Rs 5 crore for the bank.

SAVING LIVES IN DEATH

WHO'S THE DONOR

A 21-year-old man from Umbergaon in Gujarat who sustained serious injuries after falling off a train near Vapi railway station

THE DONATION Organs that could be used

His kidneys and liver could be transplanted into three end-stage organ failure patients. His heart was not fit for a transplant



ORGANS TRANSPLANTED IN CITY

Year	Kidney	Liver	Lung	Heart
2015	72	37	0	5
2014	71	36	0	0
2013	36	19	0	0
2012	43	18	2	0

WHO CAN DONATE

- > Any individual whose brain stem—a crucial part of a central nervous system—is irreparably damaged is declared as brain dead
- > The individual has no consciousness or breathing as the brain stem is the centre for both
- > The heart can function with artificial support for 36 to

- 72 hours
- > Doctors approach the family informing about patient's brain death
- > Organs must be retrieved till there is blood supply
- > This death can occur only in an ICU
- > Deaths occurring at home due to cardiac arrest cannot be considered for donation