

3-year-old leaves world with gift of liver to 5-year-old

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The parents of a three-year-old donated their child's organs to give a new lease of life to two individuals, one of whom was a five-year-old girl in dire need of a liver transplant.

It was the year's third paediatric donation in the city, with the previous donors being a three-year-old boy from Dombivli and a 12-year-old boy from Ghatkopar.

The donation took place at Lilavati Hospital in Bandra, where the child was undergoing treatment for advanced kidney disease. "Sadly, the young child faced irreversible brain damage due to her condition," said Dr V Ravishankar, COO, Lilavati Hospital.

While the family consented to donate all organs, only

the liver and corneas were found viable for donation.

The five-year-old recipient of the liver was wait-listed 10 days ago. Her doctor, Anurag Shrimal, director, liver, pancreas and intestine transplantation, Nanavati Max, said paediatric donations are rare due to the limited number of donors.

The recipient was born with tyrosinemia type 1, a rare inborn error of metabolism characterised by elevated levels of tyrosine, an essential amino acid. The defect prevents proper tyrosine metabolism. Untreated, the condition can lead to early liver cancer and significantly reduce life expectancy, said the doctor. The transplant will allow growth correction in the child, who weighed just 16 kilos and had stunted physical growth.

