



# Search for Donor Information

<b>PURPOSE</b>	<p>I. To establish guidelines for EMS field personnel to meet legislative requirements that they search for organ donor information on adult patients for whom death appears imminent.</p>
<b>POLICY</b>	<p><b>I. PROCEDURE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. When EMS field personnel encounter an unconscious adult patient for whom it appears death is imminent (that is, death prior to the arrival of the patient at a receiving facility), they shall attempt a “reasonable search” of the patient’s belongings to determine if the individual carries information indicating the patient’s status as an organ donor.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. This search must be done in the presence of a witness, preferably a public safety officer.</li><li>2. No search is to be made by EMS personnel after the patient has obviously expired.</li></ul></li><li>B. Treatment and transport of the patient remains the highest priority for field personnel. This search shall not interfere with patient care or transport.</li><li>C. Field personnel shall notify the receiving hospital personnel if organ donor information is discovered.</li><li>D. Any organ donor document that is discovered should be transported to the receiving hospital with the patient unless it is requested by the investigating law enforcement officer.</li><li>E. In the event that no transport is made, any document should remain with the patient.</li></ul>