Are whole eye transplanted?
No, only the cornea is transplanted. Other portions may be used in retinal detachment surgery, repairs and for vital research.

When will my donation be used?
Eyes should be removed within 6-8 hours of death. The fresh tissue should be used for transplant preferably within three days.

How will my donation be used?
After the eyes are processed by the Eye Bank, they will be supplied to eye surgeons who transect the corneal tissue into the eye of a person who is blind because of disease or scarring of the cornea.

No eye is ever wasted.
Eyes that, for technical reasons, may not be used for corneal transplants are invaluable for research.

Will my family have to pay or be paid for eye donation?
No, it is against medical ethics to buy or sell donated eyes.

Must I mention my eye donation in my will?
While you can mention your wish to donate your eyes in your will, your signed and witnessed donor card is all that is needed. You should carry the card at all times. Inform your next of kin, family physician and close relatives of your decision to ensure their cooperation.

Can I help gift of sight program in any other way?
Tell your family and friends about our programs. We will gladly supply brochure or any other information and assistance.
EYE DONATION
Frequently Asked Questions

How can I give the gift of sight?
You can perform this miracle by donating your eyes to the nearest Eye Bank. Your gift will help a blind person see.

Are the eyes removed only after death?
Yes, the eyes or the corneal tissue are removed only after a person’s death. The consent of the family members is enough to make an eye donation, even if the donor has not pledged the eyes in his/her lifetime.

How urgent is the need for eye donation?
Currently, the supply of donor eyes does not meet the demand. It is estimated that over two million people in our country suffer from corneal blindness. Sixty percent of those requiring corneal transplants are below the age of 12. Though one lakh corneal transplants are necessary, only 10,000 surgeries are performed each year.

Who can be a donor? Is there an age limit?
Any one can be an eye donor. Poor eyesight and age makes no difference. However, persons below 18 years of age must have the authorization of their parent or guardian for donating eyes.

Do religious authorities approve of donating one’s eyes after death?
Yes, all major religious faith has given their Yes, all major religious faith has given their approval and supports this vital sight restoration program.

Does eye donation cause any disfigurement?
No, removal of the eyes do not cause any disfigurement, nor does it interfere with funeral arrangements.
**MGM Eye Bank**

**UNIFORM DONOR PLEDGE**

In the hope that I may help others I hereby make this gift, if medically acceptable; to take effect upon my death. This submission in the form indicate my desires.

I give my eyes for the purpose of transplantation, medical research or education. **Date: __________________**

I further direct my next of kin, herein named, to execute this gift after my death.

I would like my next of kin notified of my pledge to donate my eyes. **Yes** ............... **No** ............... **Signature of donor**

**Mr./Ms.**

Name of donor (Capital Letters)

Signature of donor

Address of donor

City, State, Pin code

Birthdate

**Mr./Ms.**

Name of next of kin (Capital Letters)

Address of next of kin

City, State, Pin code

Phone No.

Name & Signature of witness

Name & Signature of 2nd witness

**Physician name, address, phone number**

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MGM Eye Institute

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Tel: (212) 555-1234

Fax: (212) 555-1234

E-mail: mk@eyeinstitute.com

Web: www.eyeinstitute.com

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Have your signature witnessed by two persons. (If you are below 18 years of age, your parent or guardian must sign as one witness) Discuss your decision with your next of kin and your family doctor.

We will send you a wallet card stating your pledge after your death. Please carry the wallet card with you at all times. If your donor card is lost, please contact the eye Bank immediately.