

Using the Right Words

Language is very powerful; it can perpetuate misconceptions or offer a space for awareness. Help CORE foster a better understanding of donation and save lives by using the correct donation terminology.

In 2005, the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO) standardized appropriate donation terminology. AOPO reasoned that avoiding words and phrases that cause concern among donor families and the general public would increase both understanding and acceptance of the donation process. This terminology is unanimously supported and used by the American Society of Transplantation (AST) and American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS), and has been adopted by the American Journal of Transplantation.

To show respect and sensitivity to those who give the gift of life and their loved ones, we request that only appropriate terms be used when referring to organ, tissue and cornea donation.

APPROPRIATE TERMS | **INAPPROPRIATE TERMS**

"Recover" organs	"Harvest" organs
"Recovery" of organs	"Harvesting" of organs
"Donation" of organs	"To harvest" organs
"Deceased" donation	"Cadaver" donation
"Deceased" donor	"Cadaveric" donor
"Mechanical" support or "ventilated" support	"Life" support
Organs, tissue and corneas	"Body parts"
"Brain death"	"Coma"
"Enhanced" risk	"High" risk