Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center Brain Donation Program

For more information, contact:
Brain Donation Coordinator
HOPE Study

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Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center

Brain Donation Program

Spreading the HOPE by solving the mysteries of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders

Why is brain donation important?

Brain donation is the only way to reach a definite diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or similar dementia, which provides valuable insight and closure to loved ones.

Brain donation also provides priceless information that helps advance scientific knowledge about Alzheimer's disease and similar dementias, benefiting the clinical care and treatment of future patients.

Brain donation is an opportunity for patients and loved ones to provide a gift of hope to future generations in the fight against Alzheimer's disease.



Who can donate brain tissue?

Every participant of the Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center's HOPE study is eligible, including persons with or without memory problems. If you are not already a HOPE study participant, please let us know if you are interested in joining.

Is brain donation against religious teachings?

Most religious and ethical traditions view organ (including brain) donation as valuable for advancing science and believe the decision to donate is a matter of personal choice.

What effect will brain donation have on funeral arrangements?

Brain donation does not interfere with any traditional or religious funeral arrangements, such as an open casket viewing.

Will brain donation cost anything?

No. The Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center will pay for all expenses involved with brain donation.



How can brain donation be arranged?

The Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center HOPE study staff is readily available to discuss brain donation with you and your loved ones.

Donation is a simple and comfortable process. A signed consent form is all that is needed to participate in the program. These forms are available at the Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center.

To be sure that your wishes will be honored, it is important to make the necessary donation arrangements well in advance and to inform your family and loved ones of your valuable donation decision.