



The Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP

**Minister for Aged Care
Minister for Indigenous Health
Member for Hasluck**

The Hon Greg Hunt MP

**Minister for Sport
Member for Flinders**

MEDIA RELEASE

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AFL goes for lifesaving goal as organ donors sign up in record time

The Turnbull Government has today unveiled a new online organ donor registration process which will save lives.

Almost instantly, you can now register to become a donor, using a mobile phone, tablet or computer.

Aged Care Minister and Indigenous health Minister Ken Wyatt also announced today a new partnership with the Australian Football League (AFL) to help lift the national organ donor rates.

“We’re proud to have the AFL on the organ donation team,” said Minister Wyatt. “Having all 18 clubs and the AFL Women’s League going hard for the goal of more organ donors promises to be a winner for everyone.

“Last year, a record 1,713 Australians received a transplant thanks to the generosity of 503 deceased and 267 living organ donors and their families.

“But we are encouraging more Australians to sign up given we can and must do better, with around 1,400 Australians waiting for a lifesaving transplant right now.”

Minister Hunt said that through the partnership, the AFL and AFLW would directly contribute to the online donor registration campaign by driving consistent and frequent messages across multiple channels and platforms.

“This will include digital, at-match and social media promotions spearheaded by ambassadors across all clubs,” he said.

“With signing up now so quick and easy and Aussie Rules heroes promoting the DonateLife message, we hope thousands more people will jump online and register to save lives.”

New research commissioned by the Organ and Tissue Authority highlights the gap between the number of Australians willing to become an organ and tissue donor (67 per cent) and the number of registered donors (33 per cent).

While 90 per cent of Australians believe it is important that their family knows their donation decision, just 56 per cent have made a decision about becoming a donor and only 51 per cent have discussed the subject with loved ones.

“Joining the Australian Organ Donor Register is crucial because it leaves your family in no doubt as to your wishes,” Minister Wyatt said.

“This is highlighted by the fact that nine out of 10 families agree to donation when the deceased is a registered donor.”

Young adults aged 18-24 years are the demographic most willing to receive a life-saving transplant if needed (75 per cent) however only eight per cent of this age group have joined the Australian Organ Donor Register.

“To fill out the registration form, visit www.donatelife.gov.au and follow the simple prompts, then please share the decision with your loved ones,” said Minister Wyatt.

Along with the new online registration form at www.donatelife.gov.au, Australians can still join the Australian Organ Donor Register online via the myGov, Medicare Express Plus and Department of Human Services websites, and by submitting printed forms.

Media contacts: Minister Wyatt - Nick Way 0419 835 449

Minister Hunt - John O’Doherty 0402 047 852