

The NCER-PD brain donation programme

Information for funeral parlours

1/ What is the brain donation programme?

Some people choose to make their brain available for research after their death. Brain donation is an important part of research into neurological diseases: one donated brain can provide tissue for numerous scientific studies.

In Luxembourg, the National Centre of Excellence in Research on Parkinson's disease (NCER-PD) is in charge of the first brain donation programme launched in 2019. NCER-PD collects post-mortem human brains from participants of the Luxembourg Parkinson's Study who have decided to contribute their brains to research on Parkinson's disease after their death.

2/ How does it work?

When a person decides to donate their brain for biomedical research, the brain bank gathers the tissue post-mortem, prepares it for future use in research, and stores it according to the highest standards. The brain bank ensures compliance with ethical and scientific standards as well as donors' privacy protection.

3/ Good to know if a deceased person in your care is a registered donor

- *After a donor passes away, the family contacts the NCER-PD team and gives them the contact information of the selected funeral parlour. Once the deceased is in the care of the funeral parlour, the NCER-PD team will contact you to organise the transportation of the body to the Laboratoire National de Santé (LNS).*
- *An autopsy will be performed at the LNS. Usually, the procedure takes between one to two hours and the donor will be released back into your care on the same day, or in some cases the following day (within 96 hours). You will then be able to proceed with arrangements for the funeral.*
- **The Brain Bank covers all costs for the transportation of the body associated with the brain donation, to and from the parlour.** *The family takes care of the normal funeral expenses.*
- **The donation procedure does not interfere with the normal course of events associated with a funeral.** *The NCER-PD team will work closely with you to ensure that the donation does not interfere with or delay funeral arrangement.*
- *The procedure used for removing the tissues does not cause any visible disfigurement and a normal viewing of the deceased with an open casket can be planned.*
- *Address and contact information of the LNS:
1 rue Louis Rech - L-3555 Dudelange
T. 00352 28 100 – 1*

4/ For more information

Detailed information and an extensive FAQ are available on the website:

www.parkinson.lu/brain-donation

You can also contact the NCER-PD team to know more about brain donation or if you have question about the transportation of a deceased person in your care:

Parkinson Research Clinic - 00352 4411 4848 - parkinson@chl.lu

A NCER-PD team member is on call between 8:00 and 17:00 from Monday to Friday.

Outside these time slots, you can leave a message and the team will contact you back as soon as possible.