

**Medical Policy: Organ/Tissue Donation**

Effective: 9/1/1999

Revised: 2/2005, 11/1/2011, 4/17/2012

Reviewed/No Updates: 1/28/13, 2/13/14, 2/12/15, 2/11/16,  
2/9/17, 2/8/18, 2/14/19, 2/13/20, 2/11/21, 2/17/22, 2/2/23,  
2/8/24, 2/20/25

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## ORGAN/TISSUE DONATION

It is the policy of the Ventura County Health Care Plan (VCHCP”) to encourage individuals to communicate their intention to donate their organs with their family members. Family members often must decide to donate an individual’s organs in an emergency setting and within a limited time frame. With foreknowledge of the individual’s intent, a family can facilitate a donation at the time of death. An increase in organ donations is necessary to relieve the Nation’s problem of organ shortages. Approximately 6,000 people die each year waiting for a transplant.

Information regarding the importance of organ donations shall be made available to all members. A notice shall be made in the Combined Evidence of Coverage and Disclosure Form (“EOC”) for each benefit plan. In addition, articles in the VCHCP newsletter, Health Coverage News shall periodically reinforce the significance of this issue.

All reasonable procurement costs for an organ donated to a VCHCP member will be covered by VCHCP, under the terms of VCHCP’s contract with United Resource Network. For Healthy Families Program members, these services may be covered by CCS (California Children’s Services).

For additional information about organ/tissue donation coverage, refer to the EOC corresponding to the member’s benefit plan.

Additional information is provided in Ventura County Medical Center’s Administrative Policy

### References:

No. 100.048, which is attached hereto.

### History:

Reviewers: Patricia Neumann Insurance Service Administrator & Richard O. Ashby MD, Medical Director; Date: September 1999

Reviewed/Revised: David Chernof, Medical Director; Date: Feb 2005

Committee Review: QAC: February 22, 2005

Reviewed/Revised by Albert Reeves, MD; Date: November 1, 2011

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Committee Review: UM: November 10, 2011; QAC: November 22, 2011  
 Reviewed/No Updates: Albert Reeves, MD; Date: April 17, 2012  
 Committee Reviews: UM: May 10, 2012; QAC: May 22, 2012  
 Reviewed/No Updates: Albert Reeves, MD; Date: January 28, 2013  
 Committee Review: UM: February 14, 2013; QAC: February 26, 2013  
 Reviewed/ No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD  
 Committee Review: UM: February 13, 2014; QAC: February 25, 2014  
 Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD  
 Committee Review: UM: February 12, 2015; QAC: February 24, 2015  
 Reviewed/No Updates by: Faustine Dela Cruz, RN & Catherine Sanders, MD  
 Committee Review: UM: February 11, 2016; QAC: February 23, 2016  
 Reviewed/Updated: Catherine Sanders, MD & Robert Sterling, MD  
 Committee Review: UM: February 9, 2017; QAC: February 28, 2017  
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 Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD & Robert Sterling, MD  
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 Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD  
 Committee Review: UM: February 13, 2020; QAC: February 25, 2020  
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 Committee Review: UM: February 17, 2022; QAC: February 22, 2022  
 Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD  
 Committee Review: UM: February 2, 2022; QAC: February 7, 2022  
 Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD  
 Committee Review: UM: February 8, 2024; QAC: February 27, 2024  
 Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD  
 Committee Review: UM: February 20, 2025; QAC: February 25, 2025

<b>Revision Date</b>	<b>Content Revised (Yes/No)</b>	<b>Contributors</b>	<b>Review/Revision Notes</b>
2/9/17	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/8/18	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/14/19	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/13/20	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review

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2/11/21	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
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2/8/24	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/20/25	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review