

Be the **Brain** Behind the **Breakthroughs**

Volunteering to donate your brain could help lead to better understanding, treatment, and prevention of brain diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.



Why do people donate their brains to research at the end of life?

- Help researchers better understand the causes and potential treatments for brain diseases that affect millions of people.
- Have a broad, positive impact on public health and future generations.
- Help family members learn more about any diagnosis of brain diseases that may run in the family.



How does brain donation work?

To volunteer, register ahead of time through the RADCO brain donation program. At the time of death, a designated loved one or health professional will call the program manager. A specialist will carefully remove the brain through the back of the head in a way that does not affect the person's appearance. The brain is then sent to our brain bank and with researchers working to understand brain diseases. The body remains with the family or funeral home for burial, cremation, or related ceremonies.



What do I do next?

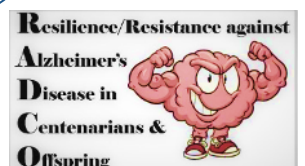
Although topics around life and death matters can be difficult to address, the best time to think about brain donation is now. Learn more about our brain donation program. Talk with your family and friends early in your decision-making process. If you choose to donate, consider registering for the brain donation program soon.



To become a brain donor, consider enrolling in the brain donation program through the Resilience/Resistance against Alzheimer's Disease in Centenarians and Offspring (RADCO) study. Call the RADCO study program manager, Cristian Ibarra, at **617-353-0919** to discuss the program and have your questions answered.



#braindonation



Brain Donation: A Gift for Future Generations

Frequently Asked Questions

One donated brain can make a huge impact, potentially providing information for hundreds of studies on brain disorders, such as Alzheimer's and related dementias. Learn about the brain donation process and how to get started.

Why is brain donation important?

Brain donation helps researchers better understand the causes and potential treatments for brain disorders that affect millions of people.



Who can donate?

Anyone over age 18 who has a brain disorder or a healthy brain can donate. Many brains are needed from diverse populations and ages.



What happens to the brain after donation?

A specialist carefully removes the brain through the back of the head in a way that does not affect a person's appearance. The brain is sent to our brain bank, which distributes tissue samples to qualified researchers. The body remains with the family or funeral home for burial or cremation and related ceremonies.



Are there any fees to me or my family?

No, when donating as part of our study, there is no cost to the family for the donation procedure.



How do I donate?

Brain donation is different from other organ donation. You can donate by enrolling in our brain donation program as part of the RADCO research study.



What do my family and friends need to do?

Agree on who will contact the brain donation center at the time of death.



How do I talk with my family and friends about brain donation?

Tell them why you want to donate your brain and share what you've learned. Talk with them early in your decision-making process. Contact us to help answer questions.



Ready to take the next step?

To become a donor, consider enrolling in the brain donation program of the Resilience/Resistance against Alzheimer's Disease in Centenarians and Offspring (RADCO) study. Call the RADCO study program manager, Cristian Ibarra, at **617-353-0919** to discuss the program and have your questions answered.



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