



Anatomy  
The Edinburgh Medical School  
Deanery of Biomedical Sciences

## DECLARATION OF BEQUEST

Common Consent Form – Universities of Scotland  
Anatomy Act 1984 (as amended 2006)

It is my wish that after death my body be made available for anatomical teaching, training and research within the guidelines of the Anatomy Act.

Title & full name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Disposal of body & Ashes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and address of next of kin/executor: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and address of witness (must be over 16 years of age): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Witness signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **CONSENTS**

**1. Donation of body (Please tick appropriate box)**

*(see page 5 in information booklet)*

I wish my body to be donated to the issuing University ONLY

**OR**

Should the above not prove possible, then I consent to my body being donated to another Scottish anatomy department.

**2. Retention of body parts**

Under the Anatomy Act 1984 the University is permitted, with the consent of the donor, to retain parts of donated bodies past the three year time limit. If you agree to the retention of parts this means that parts may be kept by the University and may continue to be used for educational purposes. Any retained parts will be cremated at a later date, separately from the rest of the body. Ashes from retained parts would be dispersed in the Garden of Remembrance at the crematorium and would not be returned to the next of kin due to the likelihood of a shared cremation.

I consent to the extended retention of parts of my body beyond the 3 year stipulation of the Anatomy Act.

**YES**

**NO**

**(DELETE ONE)**

**Signature of donor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of witness:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Images**

I consent to imaging of my body or body parts for educational and research purposes on the understanding that it would not be possible to identify me from the image. Imaging may include illustration, photography or digital imaging, X-ray, ultrasound, MRI or any future imaging method.

**YES**

**NO**

**(DELETE ONE)**

I consent to the University of Edinburgh to store and process the personal data captured on this form in relation to the administration of body donation, and confirm that similar consents have been given to me by my witness and next-of-kin/ executor.

**Please complete two forms, returning one to the issuing Anatomy Department whilst retaining the other one with your legal papers, GP or next of kin. Please also ensure that both you and your witness sign both sections and date the forms at the same time.**

The University of Edinburgh, June 2020



# Anatomy

## The Edinburgh Medical School

### Deanery of Biomedical Sciences

#### NOTES

1. Please ensure that both copies of the Declaration of Bequest have been signed and witnessed. Return one copy to the Anatomy Department and the other should be kept with your next of kin, GP or solicitor. You are free to make as many copies of the form if you wish.
2. It is important that both you and your next of kin understand that there is no guarantee of acceptance of every body which is offered. Under these circumstances, your next of kin must make alternative arrangements for your funeral.
3. The next of kin/doctor/nurse in attendance at the time of your death should know of your wishes, so that he/she can contact the Bequest Co-ordinator without delay. However, we are unable to take delivery of your body until the Death Certificate has been signed. Your next of kin/executor or attending doctor should telephone the Bequest line immediately on **0131 651 5996**. The University is closed at weekends and on Bank Holidays, and your call will be returned between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday. A decision regarding the suitability of each donation will be made after we have spoken to the attending doctor. We consider every case carefully but the University may be unable to accept your donation for medical or logistical reasons. It is the responsibility of your next of kin/executor to arrange for the body to be held in a suitable environment e.g. a hospital mortuary, or undertaker with fridge facilities, until a decision is made.
4. When the bequest has been accepted, the University will make the necessary arrangements to remove and transport your body to the University.
5. When the body has been accepted there are certain forms that must be completed by the next of kin or executors once the death has been registered. This can either be done by coming in to the department or by post. This will be discussed upon notification of death. These forms are:
  - a. **AA1** Authorisation for use of a body for Anatomical Examination.
  - b. **FORM 14** Certificate of registration of death (or full death certificate). This is obtainable from the Registrar, once the death has been registered and is necessary for the cremation.
  - c. A copy of the "**Full Extract of an entry in a Register of Deaths**".
  - d. **Supplementary form for Ashes**.

All of the above documents should be completed and be in our possession within 7 days preferably.

6. It is possible that the University may wish to take photographs/electronic images of parts of your body for educational. Training and research purposes. These images will not include features which could result in your identity being disclosed. You can choose not to allow your body to be photographed or recorded in any electronic form. Please indicate your preference on the Declaration of Bequest form.
7. The University holds an annual Memorial Service in May for relatives of those who have donated their bodies for medical research in the previous year. Invitations are usually sent out in the April following entry to the Department. Final disposal of remains may not take place for 2 to 3 years and cremations take place without further reference to the relatives unless ashes have been requested, in which place they will be notified once the ashes are available for collection.