A. Policy:

In order to provide a well-coordinated and humane approach to organ, tissue, and eye donation, and to ensure compliance with state and federal laws and Joint commission guidelines specific to organ, tissue, and eye donation, designated personnel within the Medical center, in conjunction with the contracted organ procurement organization, LifeNet Health, (hereinafter also referred to as “OPO”) will initiate and facilitate a systematic process for evaluating potential donors, obtaining consent in a sensitive manner for donation, and recovering donated organs and tissues.

B. PROCEDURE:

1. The presence of a donor document (i.e., donor card, advance directive, on-line donor registration) denoting the patient’s wishes specific to organ, tissue and eye donation will be honored by the Medical Center as the primary directive to be followed in such circumstances.

2. In the absence of a donor document, the next of kin, as specified in the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, must grant permission for organ, tissue or eye donation.

3. The Attending of record or his/her designee, must initiate contact with the OPO whenever there is a patient
   a. Who dies in the hospital
   b. Whose death is imminent, as may be signified by any or all of the following:
      - Neurological devastation with a Glasgow Coma Score of 4 or less
      - Being placed on mechanical ventilation due to severe brain injury
      - The ordering of apnea testing for confirmation of brain death; or
   c. For whom mechanical ventilation/life support is being withdrawn with the expectation of death.

4. If the OPO coordinator deems that the patient does meet criteria for donation, a LifeNet Health representative will initiate the request for organ donation to the next of kin. A Medical Center requestor is an individual who has completed a course offered or approved by the OPO.

5. If the next of kin is not interested in discussing donation, further contact will only be at their request. The OPO Coordinator will advise the appropriate medical staff.
6. If the next of kin is interested in donation, the OPO Coordinator:
   a. Will obtain necessary consent forms from the next of kin;
   b. Will coordinate all organ and tissue donations at the Medical center; and
   c. Will assist with the recovery of donated organs and tissue

7. If the next of kin initiates discussion about donation, the physician or his/her
designee will immediately notify LifeNet Health. The OPO Coordinator will
coordinate all organ and tissue donations at the Medical Center. A coordinator is
available on a 24 hour per day basis. It is the responsibility of the physician or
his/her designee to contact the OPO.

8. Prior to the declaration of death, either by cardiopulmonary or brain death, no
transplantation of organs from an anencephalic infant will be undertaken at the
Medical Center. When a diagnosis of anencephaly is made during a pregnancy,
the parents should be counseled about what donation options may be available.