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### **Trust encourages sign up to Organ Donation Register**

Doctors, Specialist Nurses in Organ Donation and Governors have joined forces at Russells Hall Hospital to encourage more people in Dudley to sign up to the NHS Organ Donation Register.

Intensive Care Consultant Dr Julian Sonksen and Emergency Department Consultant Dr Rajan Paw have teamed up with Specialist Nurse in Organ Donation Rebecca Timmins and Governor Steve Waltho to promote the gift of organ donation and urge people to discuss their wishes with their family.

The team has been working together to make sure that organ donation is a choice offered to families in all appropriate donation circumstances and ensure that people have their decision to donate fulfilled.

Dr Sonksen and Dr Paw also work with colleagues in the Intensive Care Unit and Emergency Department to encourage staff to view donation as part of everyday practice in hospital.

More than 107,000 people in the Dudley area are already on the register out of the more than 17 million people nationwide who have signed up.

Dr Sonksen encouraged anyone who had not joined the register to sign up now.

“Transplants are one of the most miraculous achievements of modern medicine, but they depend entirely on the generosity of donors and their families who are willing to make this life-saving gift to others,” he said.

“There is a desperate need for more donors, not just locally but nationally, and people can sign up by calling 0300 1232323 or by logging on to [www.organdonation.nhs.uk](http://www.organdonation.nhs.uk)”

\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*

For more information, please call Jonathan Wood, Communications Officer for The Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust on (01384) 321064.