



# Data Sheet

## COMPLEMENTARY DATA – ORGAN DONATION IN QUEBEC

### KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION – ECONOMIC ASPECTS

- Among the 1,250 people registered on the waiting list for a transplantation, some 923 are waiting for a kidney transplant.
- The latter receive dialysis treatment, generally administered a minimum of three times per week while the person waits for an eventual transplant. Given that dialysis treatment is demanding and time-consuming for the person and those around him or her, it is easy to understand why transplantation is recognized as the most effective long-term treatment for the sick person but also for the benefit of society.

Two recently published studies suggest that kidney transplantation can not only restore a person's health, but it is also cost-effective for the health system and society at large, as it generates savings when compared to dialysis.

- *“Because it improves the chances of survival and the quality of life of the person with kidney failure, kidney transplantation is recognized worldwide as the most cost-effective treatment.”*<sup>1</sup>  
Preface by Juan Roberto Iglesias, MD, M. Sc., President and CEO of INESSS
- *“Although currently stable, the incidence could rise because of the continual pressure exerted by the growing incidence of diabetes, which accounts for more than one third of all new ESRD cases each year.”*<sup>1</sup>
- *“Pour chaque personne sous dialyse qui reçoit une greffe rénale, il est estimé que le système de santé peut économiser 400 000 \$ sur une période de 10 ans.”*<sup>2</sup>
- *“Près de la moitié des personnes greffées du rein retournent sur le marché du travail.”*<sup>3</sup>

### REFERENCES

Statistics for 2012 and comparative data are available at  
[http://www.transplantquebec.ca/QuebecTransplant\\_fr/stats.htm](http://www.transplantquebec.ca/QuebecTransplant_fr/stats.htm)

Over the last six years, some 2,364 people received a transplant. This figure does not include living donations. For the same reference period, there were 280 living donations.

Over the last six years, some 312 patients died while on the waiting list.

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from the *Budget Impact Analysis of Increasing Kidney Transplantation in Quebec*, Report issued by the Institut national d'excellence en santé et services sociaux, December 2012

<sup>2</sup> Press release issued by the Minister of Health and Social Services, November 11, 2010 - *Le ministre Bolduc annonce d'importantes mesures favorisant le don d'organes.*

<sup>3</sup> Taken from the *Étude sur l'économie de l'insuffisance rénale (Study on the economics of kidney failure)*, Yves Rabeau, Ph.D., for the Kidney Foundation of Canada, Quebec Division, November 2012

The average age of donors has increased from 45 in 2001 to 50 in 2012. This increase has an impact on the number of organs that can be procured among many people.

In 2012, the average number of transplanted organs per donor was 3.6 organs for donations after diagnosis of neurological death, which is closer to American objectives (3.75 organs per donor).

Age is not an exclusion factor for organ donation: A 76-year-old donor donated five organs, and the oldest donor donated his liver at the age of 88.

Some 1.3% of people who die in hospital are potential donors (which represented a potential of 342 people for the year 2008, according to the report issued by the Collège des médecins du Québec).

In the course of a lifetime, the probability that a man in his forties will require a transplant is seven times greater than the probability that he will become a donor after death; among women, the probability is four times greater.

- Inclusion in the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec's *Registre des consentements au don d'organes et de tissus* (800,000) - in service since February 2011. To order a personalized registration form at any time: 1 800 561-9749
- Inclusion in the Chambre des notaires du Québec's *Registre des consentements au don d'organes et de tissus* (800,000) - in service since the end of 2005. This registry enters consents and refusals. According to data issued by the Chambre des notaires du Québec, the consent rate is in the order of 86%.
- [www.transplantquebec.ca](http://www.transplantquebec.ca)
- [www.signezdon.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.signezdon.gouv.qc.ca)

Source: Transplant Québec, February 2013