

**Mayo Clinic News Network**

**Title: Mayo Clinic Minute: Register to give life** Date: April 17, 2017

Intro: For the fourth year in a row, the U.S. saw a record number of organ transplants performed in 2016. Over the past five years, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing, the annual number of transplants has increased 20 percent.

April is National Give Life Month, so it's a particularly good time to sign up and help continue the trend. "There are many of us that die under circumstances where we can donate to someone else," says Dr. Charles Rosen, director of Mayo Clinic's Transplant Center. "It's a way that one can provide someone else that very valuable gift of life."

A single donor's organs can save up to eight lives. Their tissues can benefit up to 75 people. Dennis Douda reports.

| Video   | Audio   |
|---|---|
| <b>Total running time [1:00]</b>                                    | <b>///VIDEO</b>   |
| <b>Dennis Douda speaking</b>  | Fifty-four percent of adults say, if circumstances allow at the time of their passing, they want someone in need to benefit from their vital organs.  |
| <b>Dr. Charles Rosen speaking</b>                                   | <b>"Most commonly they are the heart, the lungs – both lungs, so it could help two patients – the liver; the kidneys, which there are two; and the pancreas."</b>                               |
| <b>Dennis Douda speaking</b>  | Mayo Clinic transplant surgeon Dr. Charles Rosen says making sure your wish to be a donor is honored is simple.   |
| <b>Dr. Charles Rosen speaking</b>                                   | <b>"Now we've got, in almost every state, either driver's license designation or designation on a registry, so that people can actually make a decision. And that decision can be binding."</b> |
| <b>Dennis Douda speaking</b>  | Legally binding, although, Dr. Rosen recommends taking a personal step, as well.  |
| <b>TITLE: Charles Rosen, M.D.<br/>Mayo Clinic Transplant Center</b> | <b>"I always encourage people to share their decisions with family members, as well, so they may not be taken back by that decision."</b>   |
| <b>Dennis Douda speaking</b>  | Dr. Rosen says, with 22 people dying each day for lack of a transplant, each gift counts.   |
| <b>Dr. Charles Rosen speaking</b>                                   | <b>"I think we'll always have a need for more organ donors and for more organs."</b>  |

**Dennis Douda speaking**

For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm  
Dennis Douda.