

Anne's Story: Support diabetes research through organ donation

As a long-term Type 1 diabetic (I was diagnosed in 1968), you would think I would know all there is to know so far about the disease. Truth is, I really know very little about how the disease even begins, in the body and what is even really happening in early stages. Because of this lack of knowledge, I was all ears when JDRF began the Network for Pancreatic Organ Donors with Diabetes (<u>nPOD</u>), studies designed to look at tissues from Type 1 diabetics who have donated their pancreas and related organs to science. The reason for nPOD is to learn all about diabetes in humans, with a goal for finding potential cures, instead of only looking into diabetes in animals, where diabetes is often very different from ours. Of key importance to me has been determining what really happens in human diabetes, so that we can ultimately find cures and preventions. Already nPOD studies have been responsible for re-writing medical textbooks on diabetes.



Don't Rule Yourself Out

For most of my diabetic life, I thought no one would want my organs for research, but I was wrong. nPOD needs organs from deceased diabetics, regardless of our age.

Donate Life

In 2008, I was in bad shape due to complications from my diabetes. A miracle occurred when the most generous family donated the organs of their dying son, saving my life and the lives of many others. So, without a proper way to thank the family for these gifts, I do what I know will make a difference to so many—I am donating my pancreas and my organs to nPOD research and I urge you and your entire family to consider also donating your organs toward transplantation and especially toward scientific research.

Please help others by saving lives; sign onto <u>Donate Life America</u> and become an organ donor. The transplant and organ recovery organizations around the country already work with the nPOD research program and can facilitate donations to research from deceased donors.

Sponsored by <u>www.jdrfnpod.org.</u> The Network for Pancreatic Organ Donors with Diabetes (nPOD) is a collaborative type 1 diabetes research project funded by JDRF (the non-profit foundation formerly known as Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). We support scientific investigators by providing, without cost, rare and difficult to obtain tissues beneficial to their research. nPOD currently supports over <u>120 type 1 diabetes-related scientific studies</u> at institutions around the world. Our hope is that nPOD will prove a useful resource to the community of researchers dedicated to finding a cure for type 1 diabetes.

We know that scientists have <u>cured the type 1 diabetic mouse over 500 different ways but these cures do not translate</u> to human cures. We must look at human tissue in order to find improvements in care and a cure for humans.

We need families touched by type 1 to say yes to organ donation—to be part of the cure.