

Organs from a Four-Day-Old Infant Offer Hope to Three Children in Gujarat

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Organs retrieved from a four days old infant who was brain-dead gave a new lease of life to three other children who received his kidneys and liver. On October 13, 2023, a young couple from Amreli, Gujarat, excitedly welcomed their second child. Their joy was short-lived, though, for the baby didn't cry or make any movement after birth. The baby was therefore moved to the Children Care Hospital for specialized treatment. Despite the best efforts of medical professionals, it became apparent that there was no chance of recovery, and the baby was pronounced brain dead.

Dr. Nilesh Kachhadiya from the state-operated New Civil Hospital, along with Vipul Talaviya, Managing Trustee of Jeevandeep Organ Donation, approached the family for organ donation. Moved by the appeal of their son's organs giving a new chance at life to other children, the couple and their family members willingly consented to this noble cause. Reflecting on the experience, Harshad, the child's father, shared, "Initially, we were uncertain about organ donation. However, it was my mother, who made the decision to donate the organs, and we all ultimately reached an agreement on it."

The baby was shifted to P P Savani Hospital in Surat from Children Care Hospital, where the organs were donated. The distribution of the organs followed the guidelines set forth by the Gujarat State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO). While the kidneys were transplanted into children aged 13 and 15 at the Institute of Kidney Diseases and Research Centre (IKDRC) in Ahmedabad, the liver was transplanted into a nine-month-old child at the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) in New Delhi. The baby's corneas were donated to an eye bank located in Surat.

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