

MYTHS & FACTS ABOUT EYE DONATION

- ✗ A person with a previous history of cataract or glaucoma cannot pledge his or her eyes for donation.
- ✓ If a person has been operated/treated for the above mentioned conditions, then he or she can be considered for eye donation.
- ✗ If you donate eyes you will be born blind in your next life.
- ✓ This is a great misconception as there is no written evidence in any of the religious books.
- ✗ Old and senile people are not suitable for the act of eye donation.
- ✓ There is no age bar for eye donation. Anyone above one year of age can donate their eyes.
- ✗ Eye donation will leave holes in the place where eyes existed and will cause face disfigurement.
- ✓ Only the cornea of the eye is removed and thus there is no disfigurement of the face in reality.
- ✗ You can sell your eyes for money/eyes are expensive to buy.
- ✓ Eyes are never bought or sold. It is an act of charity which is totally voluntary.
- ✗ You need to formally pledge your eyes in order to be eligible for donation.
- ✓ Although it is recommended to pledge your eyes, but the family of the deceased can come forward and donate the eyes.
- ✗ If you have spectacles, you cannot donate eyes.
- ✓ You can donate your eyes even if you are a spectacle wearer as it will not cause any hindrance.

The act of Eye Donation should be encouraged as it is one of the humblest and best means of social service. Eyes from a dead person can enable two blind persons to get vision. Pledge to donate your eyes today, Motivate others to do the same and educate others about eye donation. Pass on the gift of sight to someone who is in dire need of it and let your eyesight live forever through them.



PLEDGE YOUR EYES WITH THE ADESH EYE BANK

Your contributions will help provide sight to those lost in perpetual darkness. Your support will help us to restore sight.

- To register your name as eye donor/Pledge your eyes.
- To collect the eyes of a dear one in case of an eventuality.

Adesh Institute of Medical Sciences & Research

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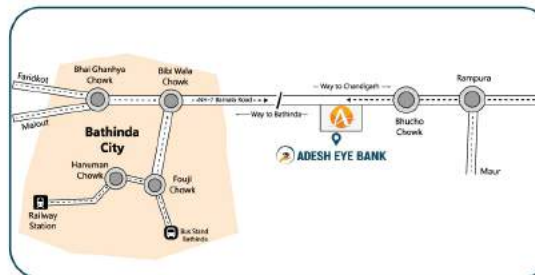
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ROUTE MAP



ADESH EYE BANK



MAKE SOMEONE'S FUTURE BRIGHT,
DONATE YOUR SIGHT



ADESH INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES & RESEARCH

NH-7 BARNALA ROAD, BATHINDA

ADESH EYE BANK

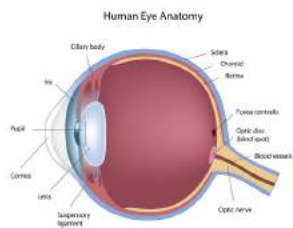
Adesh Eye Bank is a non-profitable organization working for restoring sight to the corneal blind. Once cornea develops opacification, there is no other treatment except corneal transplantation.

AIM OF THE EYE BANK

Corneal Blindness is the second major cause of blindness. Adesh Eye Bank is responsible for the procurement, processing, storage and distribution of donated corneas. Besides this, it also runs public awareness programmes for corneal donation through a group of volunteers from various social organizations. Adesh eye bank keeps records of all corneal donors and pledgers. It also registers patients who are waiting for corneal transplantation. Adesh Eye Bank is working with vision and mission of eliminating corneal blindness by real time transplantation in Adesh and beyond. It is established on international standards with state of art infrastructure.

WHAT IS CORNEA ?

HOW DOES CORNEAL OPACITY DEVELOP ?



Cornea is the clear transparent layer in front of the eye. Due to various factors, cornea may become opaque and this may result in loss of sight.

Agricultural and other industrial trauma leads to corneal infections and due to lack of immediate medical treatment, large number of people become corneal blind in developing countries like ours. Besides this, sometimes complications of diseases like measles, typhoid, small pox, malnutrition, eye surgeries etc. may cause cornea to become opaque.

CORNEAL TRANSPLANTATION: THE TREATMENT OF CORNEAL BLINDNESS

The treatment of corneal blindness is corneal transplantation. It is the process of surgical removal of the opaque or unhealthy cornea and replacing it with healthy cornea from the donor cornea of deceased person. Later the transplanted cornea becomes a part of the recipient's eye. So, a human corneal transplant can restore sight and enable a person to regain independence.



Appearance of the eye after a common type of corneal transplant surgery. The stitches are eventually removed.

WHO CAN BECOME AN EYE DONOR

Most people think that to become an eye donor, they should have good vision. But the truth is that, anyone can be an eye donor even if the donor is old, wears glasses or is blind from causes other than corneal diseases. However, if a person has Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV/AIDS, Syphilis or blood borne infectious diseases, s/he can't donate eyes.

HOW LONG AFTER DEATH CAN EYES BE DONATED ?

After death, the donor eyes should be well closed and be protected from direct sunlight to prevent dryness of cornea. The corneal scleral rim is removed from donor within 6 hours after death. Earlier the cornea is retrieved after death, better is the quality of cornea.

HOW DO YOU DONATE YOUR EYES AFTER PASSING AWAY ?

It is better to discuss about eye donation with your family and friends. Donating corneal tissue does not entail any cost to the donor or the donor's family. If you decide to become an eye donor, please complete and sign an eye donation pledge card available at Adesh Eye Bank, with two witnesses from your family or friends. Corneas can be donated even if it is not pledged. The closest kin/relative of deceased can give consent to the Eye Bank Staffs to excise corneas. Eye bank can be contacted any time. This process is facilitated by Eye bank Manager and Eye Bank Technicians.



HOW WILL THE EYES BE USED ?

Donated eyes are treated with the utmost respect. The corneas are assessed, prepared and stored at the eye bank. During this time further testing is carried out to ensure safety of the tissue to be transplanted. Patients needing a transplant are given an operation/surgery date by their surgeon in consultation with the Eye Bank, in anticipation of a suitable cornea being available. Those in urgent need are provided a transplant as soon as possible.

Although not all corneas are suitable for transplantation, with family consent, the eyes may still be used for other types of sight-saving surgery and valuable medical research.