

Transplant Football Key Message Points

- The need for an organ transplant knows no boundaries. It affects people from all walks of life, all races, all religions, all cultural backgrounds.
- The World Transplant Games Federation is to highlight the worldwide need for more donors through a new tournament embracing the 'beautiful game' of football.
- For one week, teams will converge on a neutral site to compete in the World Transplant Football Invitational Tournament. Teams are entirely made up of those who've had their lives saved by organ donation. The players have all overcome life-threatening illness and beaten the odds. Heart, lung, liver, kidney, cornea and bone-marrow recipients unite on the pitch to celebrate their second chance at life.
- The footballers play to honour their organ donors and donor families; to showcase the benefits of transplantation, and to inspire the local public to register as organ and tissue donors.
- Donation
 - There is a worldwide shortage of donors to help people received a second chance
 - More people should make a commitment to donation either by joining their country register or informing their family of their decision
 - Organ and tissue donation allows people to resume a healthy and active life
- Sport
 - Transplant recipients can achieve an active lifestyle and re-engage in team-based sport such as football
 - Football enhances a person's life through social interaction and inclusion, leadership, team-building skills and respect
 - Transplant recipients should strive to achieve their potential post-transplant and re-engage in sports they loved prior to illness
 - There is growing evidence that exercise is medicine