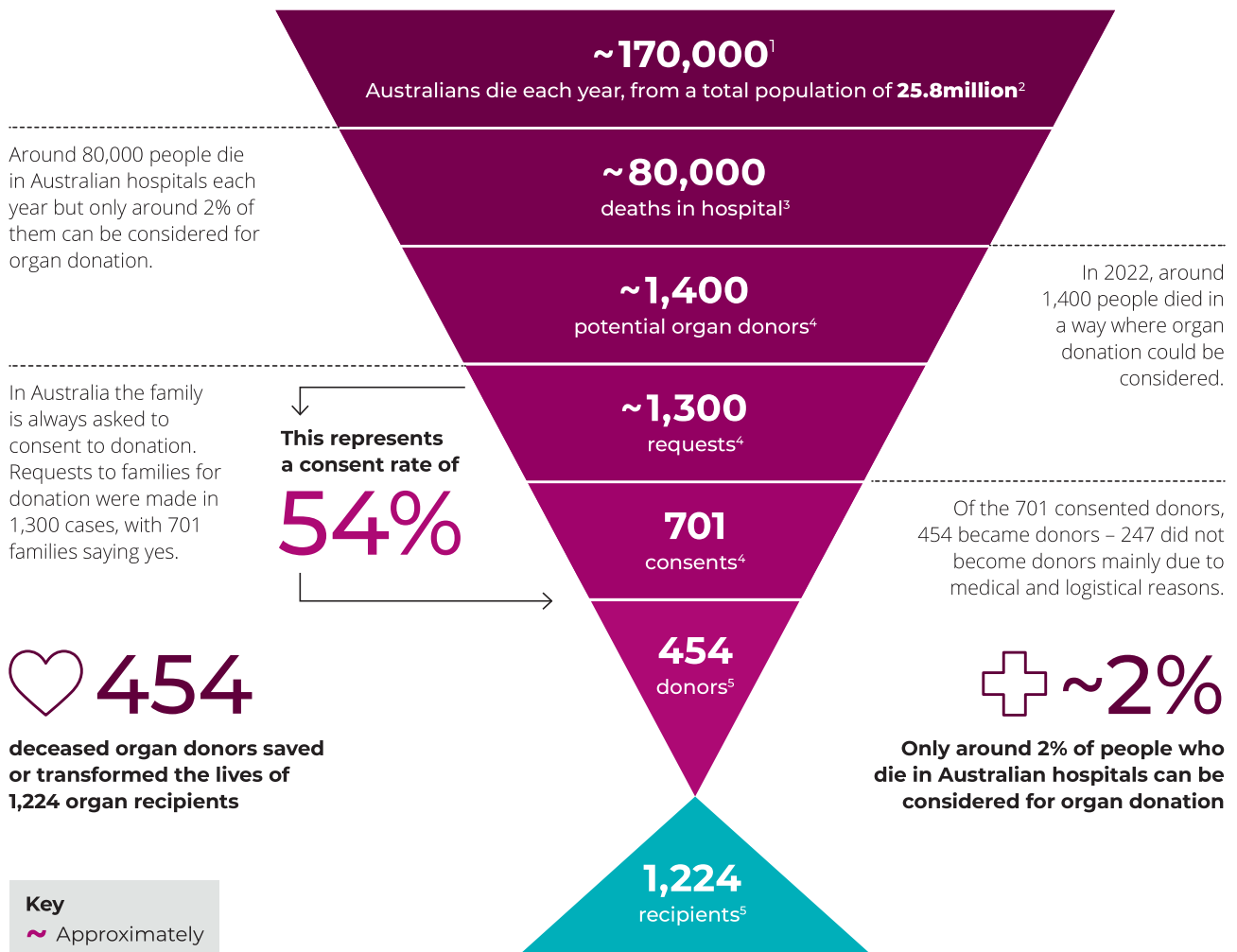


Organ donation process

- Very few people can become an organ donor when they die.
- A person must die in a hospital in specific circumstances, in an ICU or ED, as organs need to be functioning well to be considered for transplantation.
- Only around 2% of people who die in Australian hospitals meet the criteria required to be an organ donor.
- In 2022, around 1,400 people (of the 80,000 people who died in Australian hospitals) died in a way where organ donation could be considered.
- Requests to families for donation were made in 1,300 cases.
- Of this, 701 families said yes to donation in the hospital – representing a national consent rate of 54% – with 454 people becoming organ donors.
- With only a small number of potential donors, increasing consent is critical to increasing our donation rate.
- There are around 1,800 Australians waitlisted for a transplant and around 14,000 additional people on dialysis – some of whom may need a kidney transplant.

Figure 4: Australia’s potential deceased organ donor population and transplantation outcomes



Sources

- 1 Australian Bureau of Statistics. Causes of death, Australia, 2021 (Released 19/10/2022).
- 2 Australian Bureau of Statistics. National, state and territory Population, 30 June 2022 (Released 16/12/2022).
- 3 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2021. Admitted patient care 2020–21 (Released 01/06/2022).
- 4 DonateLife Audit, February 2023.
- 5 Deceased organ donation in Australia, Australia and New Zealand Organ Donation Registry, 15 January 2023.