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Death redefined by transplantation medicine

**For thousands of years the death of a human being was defined as follows: A human being is dead when heart and respiration have come to an irreversible cessation. As a result the body cools down and rigor mortis occurs. In order to be able to transplant organs,transplant medicine had to redefine the moment of human death.**

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the moment of human death.  
 For example a heart or a lung can only be donated if they are continuously supplied with blood and still fulfill their task in the body until they are actually transplanted. Therefore in 1968 the concept of  
brain death was introduced.This means that a human being is considered dead when his brain is irrevocably destroyed.Lawyer Dr. Georg Meinecke summarizes this as follows:  
“Since school medicine has added organ transplantation to its program, the moment of death has been legally redefined,shifting it forward in time in order to be able to take fresh living organs from the  
‘dead’ who is actually a dying person“.

**from erk/lw.**

**Sources:**

<http://www.subventionsberater.de/sterben/warei.htm>  
| [www.diagnose-hirntod.de/?p=219#more-219](https://www.diagnose-hirntod.de/?p=219#more-219)

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