

Obtaining Eye Tissue from Midwest Eye-Banks

Credentialing

Before Midwest Eye-Banks can provide tissue to a surgeon for transplantation, the surgeon must provide documentation of his or her credentials. These include photocopies of medical license(s) and completed informational forms that can be obtained through Midwest Eye-Banks.

Service Fees

Current tissue processing fee information can be obtained by contacting Midwest Eye-Banks at **(800) 247-7250**. Processing fees and other applicable fees are charged to the hospital or facility where the surgery is performed. In the event that the hospital or facility refuses payment, it is expected that the requesting surgeon will assist Midwest Eye-Banks in resolving the matter.

Tissue Distribution and Surgery Scheduling

Midwest Eye-Banks distributes tissue according to a scheduled surgery system. Surgeries may be scheduled by calling the Eye-Bank at **(800) 247-7250**, Monday through Friday between 8am and 5pm. Surgeries should be scheduled at least four (4) days in advance. Certain patient information will be required at the time of scheduling. Patients are scheduled on a first-call, first-schedule patient priority basis. There is no explicit limit to the number of surgeries that can be scheduled in a single day.

Surgeons scheduling Endothelial Keratoplasty (EK) or Anterior Keratoplasty (AK) procedures must inform the Eye-Bank at the time of scheduling, so that the tissue may be prepared accordingly.

Patients in need of tissue on an emergency basis are given top priority.

Surgeons agree to accept Midwest Eye-Banks' established tissue parameters, including standard age criteria for overall tissue acceptability. When

tissue is offered for surgery, the time between donor death and surgery is usually no more than five (5) days.

Corneas for transplantation are rated according to a standard Corneal Rating System. Ratings reflect the presence and severity of any imperfections noted in the tissue, as detected through specular microscopy and endothelial cell counts. Surgeons who request tissue from Midwest Eye-Banks are provided with a detailed explanation of corneal ratings assigned by the Eye-Bank.

Midwest Eye-Banks must be notified as soon as possible, and at least 24 hours in advance, if a surgery is to be cancelled. If distributed tissue is not used, surgeons are responsible for returning the tissue and/or certifying that it has been destroyed in accordance with Eye-Bank policy. Tissue is shipped with an expiration date, and may not be utilized beyond that date under any circumstances.

Tissue Transportation and Delivery

Surgeons requesting tissue to be shipped long-distance, including international shipping, are responsible for providing Midwest Eye-Banks with the following:

- Surgeon contact information and credentials
- Detailed information on nearest airport, and airlines serving that airport
- Detailed information concerning customs requirements and fees (customer is responsible for payment of any fees)
- Information on any governmental approvals that may be required for international imports (customer is responsible for all necessary import arrangements)

A transportation surcharge may be applied to urgent requests for tissue, when special handling and transportation arrangements are required.

Care and Handling of Tissue Received for Transplant

When a hospital or surgery facility is to receive eye tissue for transplantation, Midwest Eye-Banks will notify the surgeon's office, which should then notify the operating room staff prior to the arrival of the tissue. The tissue is normally scheduled to arrive a day before the surgery, unless other arrangements are made in advance.

Midwest Eye-Banks staff are available to provide information on the proper care, handling, storage and documentation requirements of the tissue. Those receiving the tissue assume responsibility for proper storage, preservation, unpacking and tracking in accordance with requirements set forth by the Eye-Bank.

Transplant Recipient Information

Tracking and Post-Operative Follow-Up

To comply with eye banking and governmental standards, the transplanting surgeon must provide Midwest Eye-Banks with the patient's name, address age, race, gender and medical diagnosis, as well as details pertaining to the surgery. The surgeon must also provide post-operative patient follow-up information in accordance with Midwest Eye-Banks' policies.

Further, surgeons are required to report any adverse reactions or complications that are potentially tissue-related, e.g., primary graft failure, endophthalmitis, intracorneal infections, transmission of systemic disease, or evidence of prior refractive surgery. Midwest Eye-Banks must then, in turn, report all adverse reactions to the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).



Communications and Logistics



Dedicated Distribution Coordinators



Certified Eye Bank Technicians

midwire

A secure, Web-based eye banking information system, created by Midwest Eye-Banks



Midwire supports all critical eye bank operations. Donor referral, surgery scheduling, distribution, shipping and invoicing are managed securely from a PC, in addition to correspondence with donor next-of-kin, referral contacts and transplant recipients.

The Midwire database enables robust data reporting to track and trend eye banking activities. Launched in 2007, Midwire supports operations throughout Midwest Eye-Banks' family of eye banks.

Obtaining Eye Tissue from Midwest Eye-Banks A Brief Summary

Our Commitment to Excellence

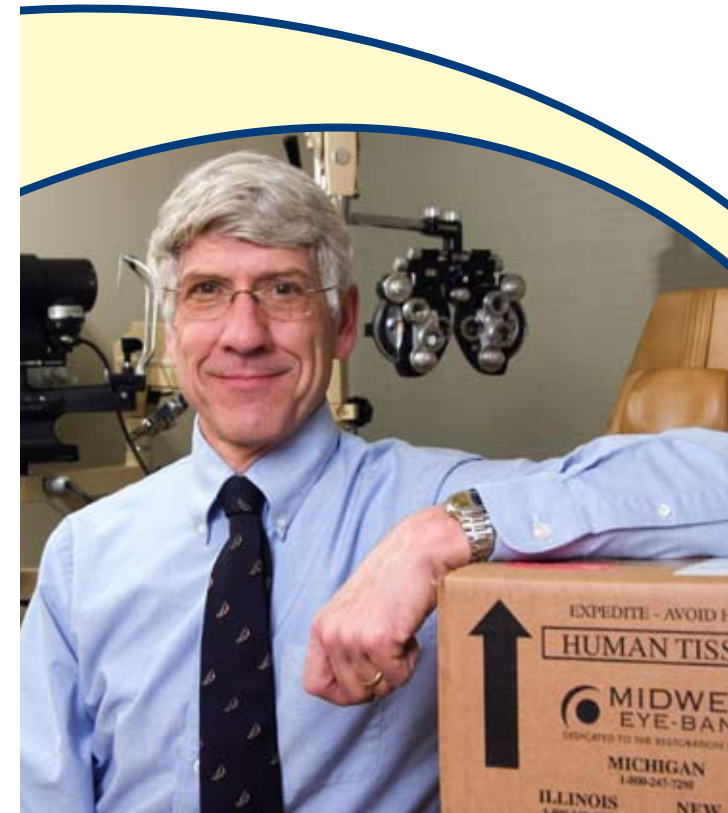
Midwest Eye-Banks collaborates with surgeons worldwide. Communications and logistics specialists facilitate donor screening, donor family interactions and donor data management.

Certified Eye Bank Technicians review all donor information to ensure the highest tissue quality and safety. Dedicated distribution coordinators manage surgery schedules, providing on-time delivery of donor eye tissue.

Our process reflects our continued commitment to excellence, ensuring the best possible outcomes for patients and the highest-quality service for surgeons.

Each of our eye banks is accredited by the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) and registered with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Our Quality Improvement team monitors training, efficiency, communications, logistics, surgeon feedback and patient outcomes to ensure we provide the safest, highest quality tissue for transplantation, and the best possible service at all times.



MIDWEST EYE-BANKS
DEDICATED TO THE RESTORATION OF SIGHT

(800) 247-7250
distribution@midwesteyebanks.org