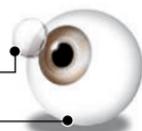


# THE \$222,062 BODY

This is what it could cost to obtain all of the tissue that can be harvested from one donor after it has been processed and marketed by a private company or tissue bank:

CORNEAS (2):

**\$4,800**



SCLERA (2): **\$2,000**

TENDONS (10):

**\$21,400**

Patellar (2)  
Semi-t/gracilis (2)  
Tibialis (2)  
Achilles' (2)  
Quadricep (2)



Achilles' tendon

MENISCUS  
knee cartilage (2):

**\$14,000**



FASCIA LATA:

**\$11,400\***



(Connective tissue, covers thigh muscles)

\* A yield of two 10cm x 15cm sections will provide 57 strips, 3mm x 15cm selling at \$200 each.

BASE BONE

**\$28,820**

Prices for whole bone: one mandible, six ribs, six pieces of costal cartilage, two patellas, two humeri, two ulnae and two hemi-pelvises. More often, bone is cut into segments – a more profitable process. Excess bone is made into cancellous chips, paste or powder.

Humerus (whole)



HEART VALVES:

**\$9,120**

Aortic, pulmonary and mitral valves can be recovered from one heart. However, price reflects cost of 1.4 valves, the average yield from one donor.



Aortic valve

VEINS:

**\$14,000**



Femoral vein

Saphenous (2) Femoral (2)

SKIN

**\$36,522\***

\*Four square feet of skin, made into 2cm x 3cm grafts for plastic surgery. Average yield per donor is 4 to 7 square feet (4 square feet of frozen skin used to treat burns: \$3,600).



SPECIALTY BONE IMPLANTS:

**\$80,000**

Bone screw (actual size)



Femurs, tibias and radius shafts are turned into specialty bone implants such as screws, dowels and spacers used in spinal-fusion surgery. The specialty implants have been developed and marketed only within the past five years. An average donor has enough bone to produce about 50 of the small implants in addition to the base bone listed.

## RELATED GRAPHICS

**Tuesday:** The skin donor

**Wednesday:** The heart valve, tendon and vein donor

**Thursday:** The bone donor

Sources: Orange County Eye and Tissue Bank, CryoLife Inc., LifeCell Corp., Northwest Tissue Center, Tissue Banks International, Osteotech Inc., Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation, Regeneration Technologies Inc., University of Florida Tissue Bank, Pacific Eye Associates.

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