


## Jerusalem - Litzman May 'Not' Be Organ Donor Despite Ministry's Campaign

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Jerusalem - Although the Health Ministry has launched a major campaign to get the public to register as potential organ donors with the ADI organization, Deputy Health Minister Ya'acov Litzman -- who runs the ministry -- declined to tell The Jerusalem Post on Tuesday whether he himself is registered with ADI.

Nevertheless, ministry director-general Dr. Ronni Gamzu -- who has long been on the ADI list and serves as a personal example -- went to the Ramat Gan diamond center branch of the Aroma coffee shops to launch the ministry's campaign to sign up potential donors at all the chain's branches. Armo CEO Asher Lev signed an ADI card at the event.

Gamzu congratulated him to encouraging potential donor registration and sat with customers to explain the importance. The screens of the computerized cash registers show the image of an ADI card and encourage customers to sign as they paid for their meals.

Although many haredim in the US recognize brain death -- when the lower brain stops functioning even if the person still breathes -- as the time when organs can be removed for transplant, most haredim do not. Most organs cannot be used for transplantation if the heart has already ceased beating. Opponents of the taking of organs at brain-death include the Gur hassidim and United Torah Judaism, of which MK Litzman is a member.

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