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Email received from: Robert Middleton  
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To the Research Director,

My name is Robert Middleton, on the 19th September 2005 I donated my left kidney to my wife Sharon Middleton and so became a "live kidney donor". Before the operation very little detailed information was available about the procedure so it was a case of proceeding with surgery and not knowing what lies ahead. More detailed information should be made available to people undergoing the procedure.

My next visit to hospital was on the 4th October 2005 for the purpose of removing a Haematoma/blood collection in the wound, this was caused by an infection of the worst type. the wound took 10 weeks to heal. For the first two weeks the wound was dressed and cleaned by a visiting Nurse, after that time no service was provided and I had use steril dressing procedures on myself to clean and dress the wound for the next 8 weeks. Money should be made available for this this type of situation to provide professional care. Attempts to start work ended in failure causing a total of three incisional hernias with repair operations dated 9th August 2006, 18th October 2006 and 18th April 2007. By September 2007 my condition was deteriorating as I was trying to work. My own decision was that I needed a longer recovery period. Phone calls and letters to organisations which promote kidney donation were ignored. This situation should not exist, support should be there for a Live Kidney Donor with "Complications"

On one visit to my surgeon i was advised that I was the worst case scenario out of 400 operations, my local GP has advised me that I will suffer adhesions and pain at least onother 2 years. There was no social support offered or given, this situation shuold be changed for future "Live Kidney Donors" . I am about to start work again and hope my medical condition will not detiorate as it has done each time in the last 3 years. In closing I would like to thank the staff and surgeons at the Princess Alexandria Hospitil who carried out these repair operations with the best care and skill available. Help has also come Centerling and Australian Government CRS Rehabilitation Services.

Robert Middleton