



ORGAN DONATION AND KEY CONCEPTS: A BRIEF STUDY

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Abstract

The need for organ transplantation has increased due to end-stage organ damage as sickness patterns change from communicable to non-communicable or chronic. Although the rate of organ transplantation has increased, it is still only 0.26 per million persons in India. There is a very low donation rate because of a lack of education and false information about organ donation.

An interviewer-administered a semi-structured questionnaire to a random sample of research participants; their answers were calculated and analyzed using the questionnaire's pre-testing. All of the participants in this research were aware of organ donation. According to the findings of the survey, 62.7 percent of students had appropriate awareness about organ donation. In the future, 67% of them would wish to donate their organs, and 85% said they would encourage their family members to do the same.

Keywords: *Organ Donation, Transplantation, Organ Donors, Rate of Transplantation, Etc.*

Introduction

Some organs like Tissues, kidneys Human cells, may be transplanted from a donor to a recipient to restore the body's functioning. It was in the early 1900s when corneas were given by the family of a deceased person to save their lives. Transplantation between identical twins of ill or brain-dead persons became more common as time went on. This trend has resulted in an increase in the need for transplantation due to non-communicable or chronic diseases that cause end-stage organ damage. Organ donation has saved the lives of thousands of people throughout the globe, whether they were victims of traffic accidents, severe burns, diabetes in its latter stages, or kidney failure. When an organ has reached the point of no return due to illness or failure, transplantation is the therapy of choice. The desire for organ donation and the rate of transplantation in India are both discussed in this article.

Table 1 shows That the current availability of organs for transplantation. Although it has increased, India's transplantation rate remains at 0.26 per million people. There is a low rate of transplantation because of a lack of education on organ donation, lack of awareness, and widespread misunderstandings as well as religious beliefs in the populace. The illicit trafficking of organs is a well-known consequence of this poor transplantation rate. More than 1100 organ donors are required to get the current rate up to one in a million from the present trend of one in a million. The present demand for organs would be met at this pace. If victims of motor vehicle accidents could be declared brain dead as soon as possible, the organs of these victims might be used to save the lives of countless individuals in need.

Table 1: Shows information about the organs available for transplant in India as of 2018.

Organs	Demand for Transplantation	Available Transplantation	Available Percentage
Liver	200000	750	0.37
Kidney	21000	5000	2808
Heart	5000	70	14
Cornea	200000	50000	25



To raise public knowledge about organ donation and encourage individuals to sign up as donors, the government and other non-governmental groups have implemented numerous community education initiatives. With the support of Organizations such as Mohan Foundation (Andhra Pradesh), Jeevandan (Telangana State), and others (Tamil Nadu), Under the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 2014, the Indian government has drafted a number of legislations to control organ donation and transplantation as well as to stop the exploitation of organs. Understanding college students' attitudes, knowledge, and actions towards organ donation is the aim of this study in order to increase awareness among them and their families and convince them to register as donors.

Methods

The study was conducted using a cross-sectional design. This year's research study spans the months of January through March. The investigation was conducted at two pharmacies in a Telangana medical college's field of practice. The sample size is 205 when the formula $4pq/l2$, $p=87$ percent, is used.

Method of sampling: The two pharmacy schools used a simple random sample approach to choose students from all four years.

Research Instrument: After conducting pilot research, appropriate alterations were made to a semi-structured questionnaire. Thirty-six questions are included in the questionnaire, This includes demographic data and a number of questions testing the donor's knowledge and attitudes concerning organ donation.

Method for obtaining information: After getting the go-ahead from the school's top brass, we interviewed each of the selected pupils one-on-one. The significance of this research was made clear, and participants' replies were kept anonymous.

Analysis: Each question was assigned a point value, and the sum was totaled for each participant. Organ donation knowledge was judged appropriate if a person scored at least 50%. The data were analyzed using a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) Version 22.

Results

There were 205 people in the research, with 77 (37.3 percent) being male and 128 (62.4 percent) being female, ranging in age from 16 to 25. Table 2 shows that Hindus made up the vast majority (83.4 percent), Muslims (14.6 percent), and then Christians (2 percent).

Table 2 shows the subjects' distribution by age, sex, and religion (n=205).

S.no	Variable	Frequency (%)
1	Age in years	
	16 - 20	146 (71.2)
	21 - 25	59 (28.8)
2	Sex	
	Male	77 (37.6)
	Female	128 (62.4)
3	Religion	
	Hindu	171 (83.4)
	Muslim	30 (14.6)
	Christian	4 (2)



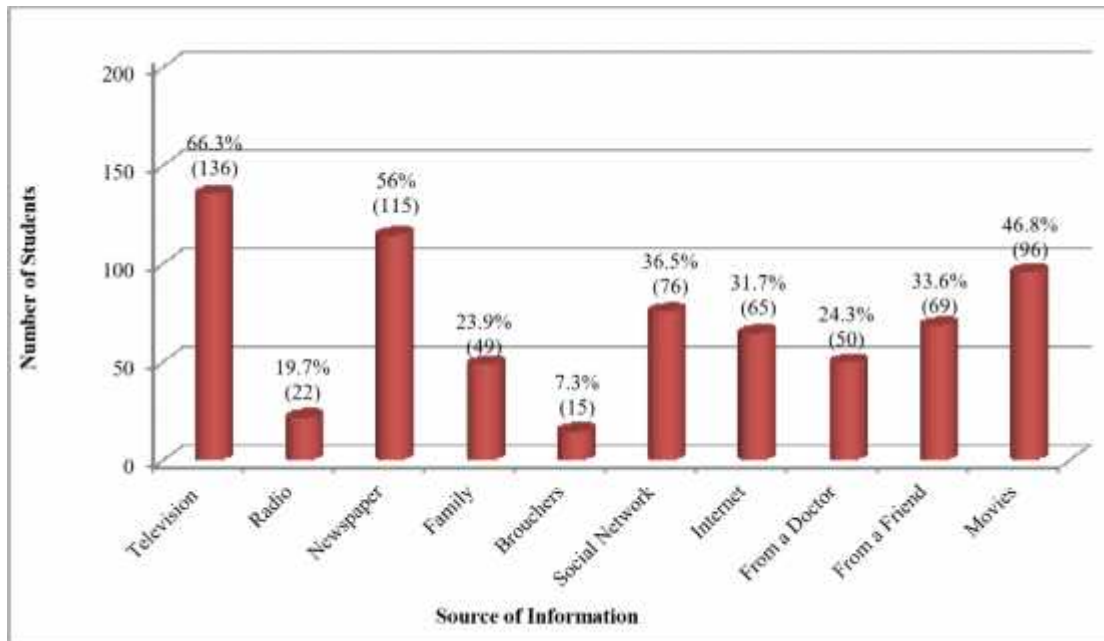
This survey found that 69.2 percent of the participants had an appropriate understanding of organ donation. Some 179 (87.3%) people were aware of organ donation, while only 73.2 (73.2%) knew about brain death, which is the everlasting termination of brain function in a person. The majority of students (58 percent) were aware that their faith permits organ donation. 66% of participants were aware that agreement from the donor's family members is necessary even after the donor signs up for donation; in contrast, 23% of students claimed that family consent is not required, and 10% of students had no information about it. In 66 percent of participants, there is a scarcity of organs for transplantation in India, according to 47% of the respondents in this survey. Only 19 percent of those polled were aware that the Indian government had passed a law prohibiting discrimination based on gender.

S.No	Questions regarding knowledge about organ donation (correct Response)	Frequency (%)
1	I've heard of organ donation (Yes)	205 (100)
2	I've heard of brain death (Yes)	179 (87.3)
3	The permanent end of brain activity is known as "brain death" (n = 179). (Yes)	131 (73.2)
4	Donation of organs is not restricted based on a person's age. (No)	121 (59)
5	Who may give their organs? An individual who is either alive or deceased, as well as those that are brain dead (d. All)	124 (60.5)
6	Is it possible for someone who has been injured to give their organs? (Yes) Is it possible for someone who has been injured to give their organs? (Yes)	193 (94.1)
7	If you have HIV/AIDS, can you donate organs? (No)	153 (74.6)
8	Is organ donation permitted in your religion? (Yes)	119 (58)
9	In order to receive organs, what is the process like? Donor's Family Members	136 (66.3)
10	Is the receiver made aware of the donor's identity? (No)	31 (15.1)
11	Getting paid to donate organs isn't illegal, but should it be? Is India suffering from an organ shortage? (Yes)	62 (30.2)
12	Have you heard of a donation card? (Yes)	97 (47.3)
13	Is there a law governing the donation of organs? (Yes)	8 (3.9)
14	Organ donation is governed by a law known as the THO Act (n=40).	40 (19.5)
15	In order to receive organs, what is the process like? Donor's Family Members	4 (10)



S.No	Questions regarding attitude and practices towards organ donation (Response)	Frequency (%)
1	What organs would you be willing to give, if offered? (s) (Yeah) Do you have a donor ID card? (n=139) Is it possible for you to get a donor card if you don't already have one? (n=131) Who do you plan to give your organs to? (Yes) (n=139)	139 (67.8)
2	Only immediate family members and others I personally know may make a decision at this time.	8 (5.7)
3	When it comes to donating organs, would you accept compensation? (n=139) (No)	40 (30.5)
4	Is there a person of your family who has given up their organs? (Yes)	
	How do you plan to encourage the people of your family to donate their organs? (Yes)	11 (7.9)
	Will you stand by your loved ones if they decide to donate their organs? (Yes)	34 (24.4)
	In your opinion, should schools be teaching students about organ donation as part of their curriculum? (Yes)	75 (53.9)
	What organs would you be willing to give, if offered? (s) (Yeah) Do you have a donor ID card? (n=139) Is it possible for you to get a donor card if you don't already have one? (n=131) Who do you plan to give your organs to? (Yes) (n=139)	19 (13.6)
5	Only immediate family members and others I personally know may make a decision at this time.	111 (79.85)
6	When it comes to donating organs, would you accept compensation? (n=139) (No)	32 (15.6)
7	Is there a person of your family who has given up their organs? (Yes)	160 (78)
8	How do you plan to encourage the people of your family to donate their organs? (Yes)	176 (85.9)
9	Will you stand by your loved ones if they decide to donate their organs? (Yes)	169 (82.4)

S.No	Expectations of the students from organ donation	Frequency (%)
1	Giving a person a second chance at life.	55 (39.5)
2	Build your social and familial standing.	30 (21.5)
3	Respect for the deity and the practise of religion	15 (10.7)
4	My prior transgressions have been expunged.	25 (17.9)
5	In the case of a Recipient, receiving money	15 (10.7)



Only 5.7 percent of those surveyed have a donor card, and 53.9 percent of those surveyed are prepared to give their organs to anybody they want. Organ donation was deemed to be a the favorable issue for 82.4 percent of participants and 78 percent of those polled said they would encourage their family members to do the same (Table 4).

Fear of organs being exploited after extraction from the corpse was reported to be the most prevalent cause for not giving Organs accounted for 45.4% of the total, while religious factors made up 27.2%. (Table 5).

To give someone a new life, 39.5 percent of those who donated organs did so, whereas 21.5 percent did it to get respect from their family and society (Table 6).

Among the participants, 66.3 percent of them cited television as their primary source of knowledge on organ donation, followed by newspapers (56 percent) and movies (46.8 percent) (Figure 1).

Discussion

Non-communicable illnesses including cancer and HIV/AIDS are on the rise, necessitating organ donation and transplantation to treat the patients. An organ shortage and a need to dispel widespread misunderstandings about organ donation make organ donation essential. Similar to Shah et al and Jothula et al earlier studies on college students and medical students, this cross-sectional survey revealed that all participants had heard the term "organ transplantation" (100 percent). The overall percentage is 87.5 percent. 7,8 Among students surveyed, 66.3 percent said they learned about organ donation via television and 6.3 percent from the media (56 percent). Researchers from Dr. DY Patil Medical College in Pune investigated patients and caregivers in the outpatient department.

According to Khalil et al., studies have indicated that television dramas may assist to raise awareness of health issues and organ donation. In an age when social media and the internet are becoming more widely used, it is critical to raise awareness about organ donation among the general public. There was



31.7 percent of participants learned about the study through the internet, and 37 percent learned about the study via social media, which is consistent with our results. 8 15% of respondents reported that family members had donated organs; 23% said that family members had informed them about organ donation, and 84.9 percent said they would be willing to support the donation of organs by relatives. It has been proven by Morgan and others that family talks may help refute misconceptions and foster positive attitudes among young people (Morgan et al., 2012). 11 An earlier research by Annadurai et al. found that almost a third of physicians and study participants had heard about organ donation from other medical professionals. 42 percent of those polled were aware that donated organs were being sold on the black market for exorbitant rates, endangering the lives of those who needed them the most. In studies by Jothula et al. and Vaishal et al., those who declined to donate their organs cited "Fear of Organ Misuse" as the reason for their reluctance. It is appreciated to hear from anybody with knowledge of laws governing organ transplantation. When a bill was enacted into law in 2014 allowing for organ transplants, just 10% of poll participants knew about it. A transplantation program for organs was in place before 2014 in Andhra Pradesh, but only 3.9% of those who took part in a poll were aware of it; in a subsequent survey, however, at least 41% of those who took part were. According to another research, just 73% of those polled were aware of the laws governing organ donation and government initiatives to promote it (or organizations). This study's participants (67.8%) reported a great willingness to donate their organs, which is similar to Shah et al's results (62 percent).

Further research indicated that 42-53%, 53-53-73%, and 47-47% of rural Kerala inhabitants were eager to participate in the study by Manojan et al. They are accurate to expect a lot from the recipient of their gift. Only 10.7 percent of participants said they expected compensation for the service they received. Based on their responses to the previous question, we came to this conclusion. Moreover, two-thirds of those who said they would donate in the future said they would give to family members, while just 7.9 percent said they would give to friends. Contrary to popular belief, Annadurai et al. found that 75% of individuals were willing to donate, but only Sixty-seven percent of participants claimed they would be willing to donate blood, and only thirty-five percent were able and ready to apply for a donor card.

Conclusion

Many chronic non-communicable disease sufferers would benefit greatly from organ transplants, which are on the rise thanks to increased public awareness of the realities of organ donation and common myths that need to be dispelled. Even though organ donation is widely accepted, the study's subjects had no idea where to begin or even with whom to discuss it. This issue shows that organizations and society are not communicating with one another. As a result of the media, the internet, and social media, organ donation has become more widely known in recent years.

The authors appreciated all of the students who participated in the study. The KIMS Narketpally Department of Community Medicine interns and postgraduates who helped us collect data were highly appreciated. As far as known, there are no conflicts of interest. At the time of the study's execution, the Institutional Ethics Committee gave its approval. The current rate of organ transplantation can only be improved by dispelling myths and misunderstandings and educating the public. In addition, everyone must know exactly where and how to contact the organizations for a contribution. The media, as a potent weapon of the current age, may be an effective means of reaching out to the general public. An organ donor's card, a transplant recipient's card, and the term "Jeevandan" are hence so very significant.



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