



**AWARENESS REGARDING ORGAN DONATION AMONG YOUNG ADULTS OF UTTARAKHAND.**

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**ABSTRACT**

**Background:** Organ donation is defined as giving an organ or part of an organ to be transplanted into another person. Organ transplantation is the only option to save lives in patients affected by terminal organ failure and improves their quality of life. **Objective-** To assess knowledge regarding organ donation among young adults of Uttarakhand. **Methods:** A descriptive cross sectional study was conducted to assess knowledge regarding Organ Donation among young adults of Uttarakhand. Research was conducted among 50 young adults of Doiwala Block of Uttarakhand who were selected using systematic random sampling technique. Data was collected through self administered structured knowledge questionnaire. **Results:** 4% sample had good knowledge, 88% had average knowledge and 8% had poor knowledge regarding organ donation. There was significant association between knowledge score and gender of the participants. **Conclusion:** There is a need for educational programs to create awareness and improve knowledge regarding organ donation among public to fill the gap between need of organ and donor.

**KEYWORDS :** Knowledge, Organ Donation, Uttarakhand.

**INTRODUCTION**

Organ transplantation is one of the major lifesaving treatment for patients with end-stage organ failure. Despite of high technology in medical science, there is a shortage of organs which lead to a gap between the demand for organs and the number of donors. The need for organs is perpetually growing, but there is still a big gap between patients in need and donors, which is a source of major concern<sup>2</sup>. There are limited number of studies on the organ donation therefore the public knowledge must be assessed to understand the reason behind gap between organ demand and donation.

**Methodology**

The study is a descriptive cross-sectional survey carried out among young adults of JollyGrant village of Uttarakhand in July 2022. A total of 50 young adults who were in the age group of 18 - 25 years were selected through systematic randomized sampling technique.

The tool included sociodemographic profile of the samples and self structured questions related to knowledge regarding organ donation. Validity of the tool was established by experts in the field of Nursing and Medical science. Reliability of the tool was established by split half method and r value obtained was 0.8 (Cronbach's alpha).

The tool was translated to Hindi language with the help of expert. Pretesting was done on 10 samples. Written consent was taken from each sample before data collection. Data was

collected by administering the self structured questionnaire. Data analysis was done using descriptive and inferential statistics.

**RESULTS:**

**Sociodemographic characteristics of the study participants**

**Table no.1: Socio-demographic characteristics of the study participants. N=50**

S.No.	Demographic variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Age in years:	16	32%
	• 18-21	34	68%
	• 22-25		
2.	Gender	23	46%
	• Male	27	54%
	• Female		
3.	Education	12	24%
	• High school	21	42%
	• Intermediate	17	34%
	• Graduation and Above		
4.	Occupation	12	24%
	• Unemployed	15	30%
	• Employed	23	46%
	• Student		
5.	Marital Status	16	32%
	• Married	34	68%
	• Unmarried		

6.	Previously heard of Organ Donation • Yes	50	100%
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As depicted in table no. 1, the study enrolled 50 young adults. There were 27 (54%) females and 23 (46%) males. Majority (68%) were in the age group of 22-25 years. Among these 16 (32%) were married. 17 (34%) were graduate and above, 21 (42%) were intermediate and 12 (24%) were high school passed.. Of these 12 (24%) were unemployed, 15 (30%) were employed and 23 (46%) were students. All the participants 50 (100%) had heard about organ donation.

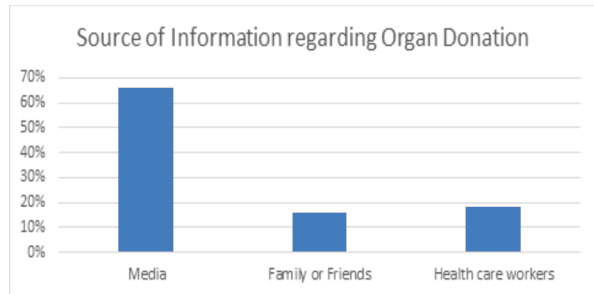


Figure no. 1: Source of information regarding organ donation.

**Knowledge regarding Organ Donation**

Table 2: Mean, Standard Deviation, Median, Range of knowledge score regarding Organ Donation N=50

variables	Maximum score	Range of score (min/max)	median	Mean + SD	Mean %
Knowledge scores	18	4-18	10	9.16+ 4.046	50.5%

The total score of the knowledge questionnaire was 23. The lowest range of scores was 4 and the highest range of score was 18. The Mean and Standard Deviation of knowledge score was 9.16 & 4.046 Mean percentage for the knowledge score was 50.5%.

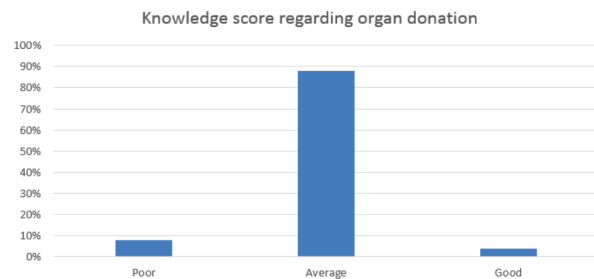


Figure no.2: Knowledge score of young adults regarding organ donation

Among 50 young adults, 4% had good knowledge, 88% had average knowledge and 8% had poor knowledge regarding organ donation.

**Knowledge regarding organs that can be donated**

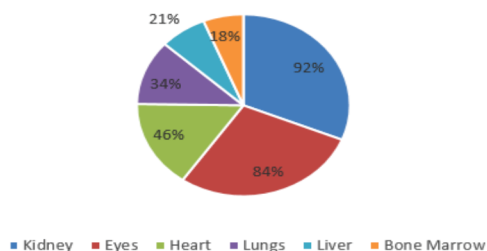


Figure no. 3: Knowledge regarding organs that can be donated.

**Association of knowledge score with selected demographic variables.**

Table No.3 Association of knowledge scores with their selected variables N=50

S. No.	Demographic variable	Below median <10	Above >10	X2	P value
1.	Age in years • 18-21 • 22-25	6 18	12 14	2.4239	0.119499
2.	Gender • Male • Female	7 17	16 10	5.265	0.021759*
5.	Education • Below Intermediate • Above Intermediate	8 14	5 23	2.1931	0.138632
6.	Occupation • Employed • Unemployed	9 13	6 22	2.2263	0.135674
7.	Marital Status • Married • Unmarried	9 13	7 21	1.433	0.231277

df= 1; p= <0.05

Significant association was found between knowledge score regarding organ donation and gender of the participants.

**DISCUSSION**

The study evaluated the knowledge of young adults regarding organ donation. The maximum score of the knowledge questionnaire was 18 and the range of score was between 4-18, median is 10, mean value is 9.16, standard deviation is 4.046 and the total mean percentage was 50.5%. The findings of the study revealed that 4% of the participants had good knowledge score, 88% had average knowledge score and 8% had poor knowledge regarding organ donation. The study outcome was supported by the cross-sectional study conducted by Melissa K. Hyde and Katherine M. White to examine young adults knowledge regarding organ donation. The study revealed that majority of the participants had average level of knowledge score regarding organ donation.

**CONCLUSION**

The study concluded that there are still some areas that needs to be improved regarding awareness of organ donation among general public. There is an immense need for educational programs to create more and more awareness and improve knowledge about organ donation as insufficient knowledge may be a biggest hurdle in it. Information regarding organ donation should be incorporated with clear messages in various mass medias as well.

**Acknowledgement**

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**Conflict of Interest:** Nil

**Ethical Approval:** The study was approved by institutional ethical committee.

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