



LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE ON ORGAN DONATION AMONG NOVICE STUDENT NURSES AT SELECTED COLLEGE IN CHENNAI

Nursing

Mrs. Packialakshmi K*

M. Sc (N), Nursing Tutor, Dr. MGR Educational and Research Institute, Chennai
*Corresponding Author

Dr Vidhya Thirunavukkarasu

M. Sc (N), Ph.D, Asst Professor, King Faisal University, KSA

ABSTRACT

Background: There have been several news reports in recent past about organ trafficking in India putting the spotlight on shortage of donors. Society plays a crucial role in transplant program especially in case of cadaver transplants. There is an urgent need for increased public awareness regarding organ donation and greater effort must be taken to dispel public concerns regarding the same. **Objectives:** Assess the level of knowledge on organ donation and associate the level of knowledge with selected demographic variables. **Methods:** A descriptive study design was adopted in this selected. Forty novice student nurses were selected of those who fulfill inclusive criteria. An obtained informed consent was obtained from the study participants. The structured questionnaire was used to collect the data. **Findings:** Most of the samples 29 (72.5%) had moderate knowledge, 9 (22.5%) had inadequate knowledge and 2 (5%) had adequate on organ donation knowledge. The data revealed that there is a significant association between the level of knowledge and age, sex, and religion. **Conclusion:** This study ascertains the need of an effective educational program for nursing students to improve their knowledge regarding organ donation and to raise organ procurement.

KEYWORDS

Organ donation,

INTRODUCTION

Organ donation is the process of removing tissues or organs from live, or recently dead, person to be used in another. The former is the donor and latter is the recipient. People of all ages can become donors¹. Joseph M Grinyo, said organ transplantation save lives of terminal organ failure patients and improve quality of life. Gradual growth of organ transplantation in last 2 decades. The admirable result in children and young adults, whereas the elderly transplant patients with comorbidities are facing challenges. Organ donation can give a second chance at life to someone². The University of Rochester Medical Centre reported Organ transplantation saves lives and also help the family members in their grieving process. Family members believe that they are still alive in the world through someone³. National Organ Transplant Act of 1984 (NOTA) was enacted to help in a fair and efficient way in organ donation process which leads to impartial dissemination of donated organs. The Act established the National Organ Procurement and Transplant Network (OPTN) for matching donated organs to awaiting recipient. OPTN is managed through the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) located in Virginia⁴. The Government of India accords a very high priority for increasing donation of cadaver organs to bridge the gap between the demand and supply of organs which save the lives of a large number of persons suffering from End Stage Organ failure. The Health and Family Welfare Minister Nadda Said an Inter-Ministerial coordination committee has been established to harmonize various activities for advancement of organ donation. Financial assistance has been sanctioned for (NOTP) establishing Four Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Assam and Chandigarh⁵. Early 1900's European doctors attempted to save patients dying of renal failure by transplanting kidneys from various animals including monkey, pig and goats. None of the recipient lived for more than a few days. Various history revealed that the development of organ donation. In 1960, first Lung, Liver, Pancreas transplant took place. In 1984, as transplant became less risky and more prevalent the US congress passed National Organ Transplant Act⁶. In India, well organized and documented regular kidney transplantation started in early 1970 at CMC Vellore followed by AIIMS in 1972, the PGI, Chandigarh in 1973. First, regular cadaver kidney transplant program began in 1994. The bill became reality called Human Organ Transplant Act (HOTA) which is now changed to Transplant of Human Organ Act (THOA)⁷.

Some organs can be donated by a living person. Almost all organs can be donated by someone dead, but this has to reach the recipient within a few hours after the donor's death. In case of live donation, the donor should give his consent. In case of cadaver donation, relatives need to provide consent. Almost everywhere organ donation is voluntary. Two voluntary systems include- Opt-in-- where the donor gives consent and

Opt-out--- where anyone who has not refused is considered as a donor. In India we have the opt-in system, while many western countries practice the opt-out system⁸.

Vijayalakshmi. P, Nagarajaiah concluded that continuing education for nurses to enhance skills and knowledge in all aspects in organ donation. Nurse administrator develops guidelines and role of nurse in organ donation and transplantation process⁹. Chakradhar K. et., al, conducted a study on knowledge, attitude and practice regarding organ donation among Indian Dental students. Overall, 9.5 million deaths annually in India nearly 100,000 due to organ failure. To save and extend lives. Organ donation and organ transplantation have become the only hope. There are an average level of knowledge and low level of positive attitude and practice habits among studied dental students towards organ donation and transplantation¹⁰.

Family consent and negative attitude contribute towards organ shortage. This could be due to the following reasons- religion, fear, ignorance and misunderstanding, legal aspects, media reports on scandals involving organ rackets. Society plays a crucial role in transplant program especially in case of cadaver transplants. There is an urgent need for increased public awareness regarding organ donation and greater effort must be taken to dispel public concerns regarding the same.

Statement of the problem

A descriptive study to assess the level of knowledge on organ donation among novice student nurses at selected college in Chennai.

Objectives

- Assess level of knowledge on organ donation among novice student nurses.
- Identify the association between demographic characteristics and knowledge on organ donation.

Materials and Methods:

A descriptive research design was adopted in this study. Forty samples were selected based on non – probability purposive sampling technique of those who fulfilled the inclusive criteria such as both male and female 1st year B.Sc Nursing students, willing to participate and age group of 17 – 19 years. A formal informed consent was obtained from the study participants. The investigator collected the data using the structured questionnaire to assess the knowledge on organ donation.

FINDINGS:

Half of the samples 24 (60%) were from age group of 18-19 years. Majority of the samples 33 (82.5%) were female. Most of the samples 35 (87.5%) were Hindu, 27 (67.5%) samples were from nuclear family

and many of the samples 24 (60%) were residing in rural area.

Distribution of level of knowledge regarding organ donation

N= 40

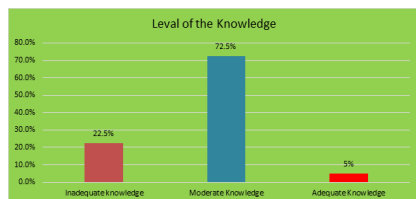


Diagram: Distribution of Level of knowledge on organ donation

Table 1: Distribution of variable

Sl.No	Variable	Mean	SD
1	Level of knowledge on organ donation	8.85	3.45

Table 1: depicts that the level of knowledge on organ donation is 8.85 $\pm$ 3.45

The demographic variable age, (1.42) sex (1.99) and religion (5.1) found to be statistically significant association in the level of knowledge on organ donation at $p < 0.05$ level

DISCUSSION:

This study result was consistent with the study conducted by Jawoniyi OO, Gormley K. Nurses have a major role to play in deal with organ and tissue shortages. If nurses are not fully educated about organ donation and transplant, the role cannot be adequately performed. So, education could be integrated into mandatory training and completed by all nurses¹¹.

The association between demographic variables and knowledge on organ donation. The demographic variable age, sex and religion have statistically significant at $p < 0.05$ level.

CONCLUSION

Though some students found in moderate level of knowledge on organ donation, there is huge gap between the need for and the supply of donor organs. Nurses with an in-depth knowledge of donation understand its clinical and technical aspects as well as the moral and legal considerations. Nurses have a major role to play in tackling organ and tissue shortages. Such a role cannot be adequately performed if nurses are not fully educated about donation and transplant. Such education could be incorporated into mandatory training and completed by all nurses.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE RESEARCH

- Conduct awareness program on organ donation among nursing students.
- Awareness campaign can be conducted every year to encourage the general public as well
- Can deliver course on organ donation exclusively for nursing students

REFERENCE:

1. Human Resource and Service Administration. <https://www.organdonor.gov/about/process.html>
2. Josep M Grinyo. 2013. Why is Organ Donation Clinically Important? Cold Spring Harbor Perspectives in Medicine. Jun; 3(6): a014985.
3. <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/patients-families/health-matters/april-2014/organ-donation-the-power-to-change-lives.aspx>
4. https://www.onelegacy.org/newsroom/presskit/organ_stepbystep.html
5. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/govt-taking-steps-to-increase-donation-of-cadaver-organs/articleshow/50136378.cms>
6. Organ Transplants: Brief History. Updated Aug 22, 2018. <https://www.history.com/news/organ-transplants-a-brief-history>
7. Sunil Shroff. Legal and ethical aspects of organ donation and transplantation. Indian Journal of Urology. 2009, Jul-Sep; 25(3): 348–355.
8. Nadey S Hakim. Introduction to Organ Transplantation. 2nd edition. Imperial College Press, London. 2012, 41–44 pages.
9. Vijayalakshmi Poreddi, Dr. Nagarajaiah. Indian ICU nurse's perception of attitudes towards organ donation. British Journal of Nursing. 2015, 24(13):694–7.
10. K. Chakradhar, D Doshi, B Srikanth Reddy, S Kulkarni, M Padma Reddy, S Sruthi Reddy. International Journal of Organ Transplant Med. 2016; 7 (1): 28–35.
11. Oluwafunmilayo Ololade Jawoniyi, Kevin Gromley. How critical care nurses' roles and education affect organ donation. British Journal of Nursing. 015 Jul 9-22;24(13):698–700.