

17th NATCO 2024 Free Paper Abstracts

Podium presentations:

Title of the Paper: Enhancing Organ Donation Awareness and Renal Transplantations at Government Hospitals - By Extensive Approach

Presenting Author: Dr. Bhanu Prakash

Institution's name: Gandhi Govt Hospital, Hyderabad.

Introduction: Organ donations and transplantations are low in government hospitals in Telangana state due to limited awareness. As a dedicated transplant coordinator, a comprehensive and multifaceted approach was initiated to address these challenges.

Methodology: Regular visits were made to dialysis centers at all district hospitals across Telangana state for kidney patient counselling and education. Kidney dialysis patients and their families were educated on how to register at Gandhi Government Hospital for renal transplantation at no cost. Collaboration with nephrology department staff was established. Awareness sessions and talks were conducted in all public and private sectors and other organizations to promote organ donation.

Results: A 36-year-old male patient who had been on dialysis for seven years successfully underwent cadaveric kidney transplantation at Gandhi Government Hospital. Following the transplant, he got married and was blessed with a baby boy. He is doing well, and his happiness knows no bounds. There was a significant increase in organ recipient registrations in government hospitals, improved renal transplant numbers, and enhanced awareness among healthcare professionals.

Conclusion: Through dedicated patient education programs and advocacy efforts, contributions have been made to increase organ donation awareness, registrations, and transplantations in government hospitals at no cost.

This was awarded the best paper award (1)

Title of the Paper: Challenges and Outcomes in Post Kidney Transplant Recipients: A Single-Centre Analysis

Presenting Author: Ms. Thoidingjam Udayini Khuman

Institution's name: Babina Hospital, Khabeisoi, Imphal

Background – Organ transplantation is a crucial therapeutic approach for prolonging life and enhancing quality of life, especially for patients with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Kidney transplantation has been shown to be more effective than dialysis in improving survival rates and overall well-being. However, the complexity of post-transplant immunosuppressive therapy requires ongoing monitoring, as it increases the risk of complications and psychological distress.

Objective – This study aimed to assess the challenges and outcomes experienced by post-kidney transplant recipients at a tertiary-level government hospital in Manipur.

Methods – A cohort of 59 post-kidney transplant recipients, treated between June 2022 and August 2024, was examined. Data were gathered through interviews covering demographic information, post-transplant complications, and psychosocial distress.

Results – The study population consisted of 59 patients, most of whom received transplants from living donors (93.2%), with a majority being male (61.1%), aged 18–40 years (59.3%), and having near-related donors (72.9%). Key findings indicated that 13.6% of recipients had irregular follow-up, 8.5% experienced frequent infections due to compromised immunity, 8.5% encountered antibody-mediated rejection, 6.8% struggled with adherence to medication and dietary regimens, and 27% suffered from psychosocial distress. This distress included depression related to organ rejection, challenges in regaining physical health, and financial burdens due to ongoing medication.

Conclusion – Psychosocial distress emerged as the most significant issue among recipients. Integrating psychological follow-up and counselling into routine post-transplant care is essential to address emotional challenges and enhance overall mental well-being.

This was awarded the best paper award (2)

Title of the Paper: Court Decisions in Organ Donation and Transplantation - An Analysis

Presenting Author: SIVAKUMAR M

Institution's name: Dr. Rela Institute & Medical Centre, Chennai

Introduction – The Transplantation of Human Organs (Amendment) Act, 2011, and the Rules of 2014 aim to prevent commercial practices in living donor transplants and promote deceased donor transplants. This study explores how court decisions interpret these legal guidelines and address the ethical considerations surrounding organ donation.

Methodology – Data Collection: Court decisions from 2012 to 2024 were identified through a structured electronic search using specific keywords related to organ donation and transplantation. **Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria:** Of 172 judgments, 123 were included in the study, excluding 49 cases focused on criminal matters, compensation for medical negligence, and hospital licensing regulations.

Results – The analyzed decisions were predominantly from high courts in southern states. Most cases (59%) were adjudicated within a month, with a small proportion (5%) extending over years. Writ petitions (civil) constituted 95% of the cases, while public interest litigations and criminal petitions each represented 2.5%. Case types included swap transplants (2%), deceased donation and transplants (5%), living related transplants (16%), and predominantly living unrelated transplants (77%). It was observed that all donors and recipients involved in living donor transplants in the petitions were male. The study reviewed 20 judgments on living related donor transplants, finding 90% in favour of the donors and/or recipients. In the case of 95 judgments on living unrelated donor transplants, 78% were favourable to the donors and/or recipients.

Discussion – The transplant program requires a demonstration of altruism and adherence to the legal framework to ensure voluntary and ethical donations. While the court decisions have been valuable in providing legal guidance, differences in perspectives between the courts and committees established under the THO Act have sometimes resulted in ambiguity.

Title of the Paper: Feasibility cum Assessment Study of Selected Hospitals in North-Eastern India for Starting Deceased Organ Donation & Transplantation Programme

Presenting Author: Laishram Monica Devi

Institution's name: Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS), Imphal

Introduction – End-stage organ failure is a significant healthcare issue in India, impacting over 500,000 individuals each year. There is a substantial gap between the demand for organ transplants and the limited number performed, with only 16,041 transplants in 2022, mostly relying on live donors. India's deceased organ donation rate, at just 0.66 per million population, is among the lowest globally. This study evaluates the feasibility of initiating a deceased organ donation and transplantation program in selected hospitals across North-Eastern India.

Methodology – Data collection involved on-site visits and visual inspections to assess hospital capabilities. Using Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis and organ donation data, we formulated recommendations at three implementation levels.

Results – Based on our assessment, hospitals were categorized into three implementation phases. Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences and Shija Hospitals & Research Institute Pvt. Ltd., Langol, were designated as Phase 1, ready to begin deceased donation activities immediately or within a year. North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health & Medical Sciences, Shillong, ILS Hospital, Agartala, and Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Lamphel, fell under Phase 2, with potential readiness within the next year, depending on implemented recommendations. No institutions were currently designated for Phase 3, planned for initiation in two years.

Conclusion – The study highlights the critical need to advance deceased organ donation efforts in North-Eastern India. By categorizing hospitals by readiness and providing tailored recommendations, it aims to enhance transplant access in the region, ultimately saving more lives.

Title of the Paper: Enhancing Organizational Reporting: The Strategic Role of Excel in Data Transformation.

Presenting Author: Simran Anand

Institution's name: MOHAN Foundation, NCR

Introduction: This study examines how organizations have advanced their reporting processes by leveraging Excel spreadsheets to transform raw data into actionable insights.

Excel is a powerful tool for data management, enabling organizations to organize, summarize, and analyze information efficiently. These improvements not only enhance decision-making and operational efficiency but also bolster communication with external partners, contributing to an organization's competitiveness and resilience in a rapidly changing environment.

Methodology: The study focuses on several key ways Excel is used in organizational reporting:

1. **Data Collation:** Excel is employed to collect and integrate data from various sources, creating a unified view of organizational performance.
2. **Data Organization:** Excel facilitates the systematic arrangement of data, making it accessible and easy to manage. This includes structuring data in databases and maintaining consistent formats.
3. **Data Summarization:** Excel's tools, such as summaries and metrics, condense large volumes of data into essential insights, enabling quick identification of critical trends.
4. **Advanced Data Analysis:** Excel supports the creation of dashboards, application of filters, and use of pivot tables to transform raw data into actionable insights.
5. **Impact Assessment:** The study also evaluates how these enhanced reporting methods have improved decision-making, efficiency, and stakeholder engagement.

Results: The application of these Excel-based methodologies has significantly improved organizational reporting by:

1. **Enhancing Data Integration:** Organizations now have a unified and comprehensive view of performance by integrating data from multiple sources.
2. **Improving Data Accessibility:** Systematic data organization in Excel has streamlined information retrieval and analysis.
3. **Extracting Effective Insights:** Excel's summarization tools have enabled organizations to swiftly identify important trends and make informed decisions.

Conclusion: The study concludes that Excel's role in evolving reporting processes has been pivotal in enhancing organizational efficiency, transparency, and adaptability. By transforming raw data into valuable insights, Excel helps organizations make strategic decisions, strengthening their internal operations and external communications. This advancement in reporting processes is crucial for maintaining competitiveness and resilience in today's dynamic business environment.

Title of the Paper: Evolution of Skin Bank at JLNHRC, Bhilai

Presenting Author: Dr Anirudh Mene

Institution's name: JLNHRC, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh

Introduction/Background – In India, approximately 1 million people suffer burn injuries each year, most of whom are from lower- or middle-income groups. This situation underscores the need for economical treatment options. The use of human skin allografts is recognized as the gold standard for treating burn wounds, making in-house skin banking essential for burn care hospitals to keep treatment affordable. However, until 2009, India had only one skin bank, which was insufficient to meet the country's needs.

Methodology – To address this gap, JLNHRC, Bilai—a tertiary burn care center—collaborated with the Steel Authority of India Ltd to develop a cadaveric skin bank model in Bilai, Chhattisgarh, in 2022.

Results – The model has since been replicated in other states of India to serve the country’s large burn population.

Conclusion – This paper provides a step-by-step account of the evolution of the JLNHRC skin bank and describes its current status.

Title of the Paper: The Impact of Counselling on a Double Transplant Journey **Presenting**

Author: Parul Bishnoi

Institution’s name: MOHAN Foundation

A Caregiver's Perspective: As a caregiver for two family members who underwent organ transplants, significant emotional and practical challenges were encountered during this process. In 2019, a maternal aunt donated her kidney to a father with chronic kidney disease. Three years later, a partner received a cadaveric liver transplant. While medical care was exceptional, feelings of overwhelm and inadequacy arose in navigating the emotional and psychological aspects of the transplant journey. The absence of adequate counselling services contributed to considerable stress and anxiety.

Importance of Counselling: These experiences highlight the critical role of counselling in supporting transplant patients and their caregivers. Timely information, addressing emotional needs, and offering practical advice can empower patients and families to cope with the complex challenges associated with organ transplantation.

Recommendations

- **Pre-transplant counselling:** Comprehensive counselling should be offered to address fears, concerns, and expectations.
- **Ongoing support:** Continued counselling is necessary to help patients and caregivers cope with the emotional and physical challenges of transplantation.
- **Empathetic care:** A supportive and empathetic environment for patients and their families should be fostered.

By prioritizing counselling in transplant care, the overall experience for patients and their loved ones can be improved, ultimately leading to better outcomes.

Title of the Paper: Societal Perceptions and Recognition of Organ Donation: A Review on Donor Families' Experiences

Presenting Author: Dr. Damini Singh

Institution’s name: MOHAN Foundation Jaipur Citizen Forum, Jaipur

Introduction: Organ donation plays a crucial role in modern medicine; however, it remains a complex and often stigmatized process for donor families. This review aims to explore the multifaceted experiences of families who have donated organs, emphasizing the social stigmas they confront, including misconceptions that depict organ donation as a profit-driven initiative and conflicts arising from religious beliefs.

Methodology: A comprehensive review of existing literature, case studies, and collection of primary data from donor families through telephonic calls was conducted to understand their experiences. The analysis focused on the societal perceptions surrounding organ donation, particularly in lower socioeconomic groups, and the support mechanisms provided by governmental bodies and healthcare institutions.

Results: The findings reveal that many donor families face significant societal pressures and criticism, exacerbated by a perceived lack of governmental support. These challenges are often intensified for families from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Conversely, some families experience positive recognition through initiatives by various organizations, such as naming public facilities—like primary health centers and hospital wards—after their loved ones. These honors contribute to increased awareness and advocacy for organ donation within their communities.

Conclusion: This review highlights the duality of experiences faced by donor families, revealing both the stigma and the recognition they encounter. It underscores the urgent need to address these stigmas and enhance support mechanisms for donor families, thereby acknowledging their invaluable contributions to the broader public health narrative and fostering a more supportive environment for organ donation.

Title of the Paper: Vision to Victory: AIIMS Nagpur Achieves Milestones in Deceased Organ Donation

Presenting Author: Pritam Kumar Trivedi & Dr. Amol Bhawane

Institution's name: AIIMS, Nagpur

Introduction: This paper discusses AIIMS Nagpur's experience with a successful deceased organ donation program, including donations after brain death (DBD) and donations after circulatory death (DCD).

Materials and Methods: Data analysis was conducted to discuss strategies for a successful deceased organ donation program from May 2023 to September 2024 at AIIMS Nagpur.

Results: During the 16-month period from May 2023 to September 2024, AIIMS Nagpur made significant strides in organ transplantation. A total of 18 deceased organ donations were successfully carried out, comprising 15 DBD and 3 DCD. This remarkable achievement led to a total of 30 renal transplants.

Strategies for a Successful Deceased Organ Donation Program:

1. Key Components of a Successful Deceased Organ Donation Program at AIIMS Nagpur:

- Dedicated transplant coordinator
- Coordination committee
- Daily screening of critical areas
- Dedicated WhatsApp group
- Top 5 patients from each blood group nearby
- Monthly program meetings
- Recipient counselling for DCD and extended criteria
- Regular awareness programs

2. Key Components of a Successful Donation After Circulatory Death (DCD) Program at AIIMS Nagpur:

- Vision: A clear strategy for implementing and growing the DCD program
- Collaboration among the medical team
- Recipient counselling for DCD transplants
- Donor family sensitization
- Healthcare worker awareness
- Dedicated SICU bed near the operating theatre
- 24/7 availability of lab and radiology services

3. Impact of Small Changes:

- Guard of Honour placement: Choosing the right location for the guard of honour can have a powerful impact.
- AIIMS Nagpur had two instances where one donation was followed by another, with one donor family inspiring another.

Conclusion: AIIMS Nagpur's deceased organ donation program is built on strong coordination, early donor identification, and proactive counselling. Key factors have led to increased donations, highlighting how focused strategies can effectively enhance organ donation outcomes.

Title of the Paper: Barriers and Enablers in Organ donation: A Study on Family Consent and Institutional Infrastructure at a Large Public Tertiary Care Hospital in Maharashtra

Presenting Author: Veena Wathore; Jaya Jairam & Bhagyashree Nighot

Institution's name: MOHAN Foundation, Nagpur

Introduction: Over a span of 17 months (March 23, 2023, to August 24, 2024), 119 potentially brain-dead cases with Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) scores < 5 were identified in the ICU. The MOHAN Foundation's transplant coordinator and the hospital's medical social worker counselled the families of these patients. Data on patient demographics, ICU units, consent outcomes, and reasons for failure in organ donation were recorded and analyzed.

Results:

- 65 families (56%) denied consent, citing strong refusal, unwillingness for surgical procedures, or lack of awareness.
- 24 cases (20%) could not proceed as patients suffered cardiac arrest before conversations on organ donation could occur.
- In 15 cases (12%), written or verbal consent was given, but the patient suffered cardiac arrest, or the consent was later withdrawn due to delays in medicolegal case (MLC) procedures or body handover.
- 6 cases (5%) had no decision-maker available.

Conclusion & Recommendations: Lack of awareness, particularly among rural and semi-urban populations, remains a significant barrier to organ donation. Awareness campaigns need to be intensified not only in Nagpur but also in surrounding regions.

Title of the Paper: Cadaveric Skin Donation - Emerging Trends in Telangana

Presenting Author: Dr. Bhanu Chandra Srivari

Institution's name: Osmania General Hospital, Hyderabad, Telangana

Introduction: Globally, burn injuries are the fourth most common cause of trauma, accounting for 11 million injuries and over 300,000 deaths each year. The magnitude of burn injuries in India is immense; according to WHO, over 1 million people are moderately or severely burned every year, with about 57% resulting in death.

Results: Cadaveric skin donation in Telangana is a relatively new concept, but the response has been encouraging in the last two years since the advent of the Skin Bank at Osmania General Hospital and the Cadaver Organ & Tissue Transplant Programme (Jeevandan), initiated by the Government of Telangana in association with several NGOs, including Rotary Club of Hyderabad East and MOHAN Foundation. The Skin Bank at Osmania General Hospital was inaugurated on June 28, 2021, with the first donation recorded on October 27, 2021. There have been a total of 18 skin donations, resulting in a total of 27,000 cm² of skin harvested so far. Notably, in the last 31 days, four potential cases were identified and declared brain dead; all four families consented to donate organs and tissues. A total of six corneas, six kidneys, three livers, and skin from two donors were harvested at Osmania General Hospital.

Conclusion: The establishment of the Skin Bank and collaborative efforts have significantly advanced cadaveric skin donation in Telangana, showcasing an emerging trend that has the potential to improve the outcomes for burn victims and other patients in need.

Presenting Author: Radhika Joshi

Institution's name: The Second Chance Project, Dehradun

Type of Presentation: Podium

Title of the Paper: Role of Mediators in Facilitating Organ Donation and Transplantation in India: The Case of the Organ Transplant Coordinators

Introduction: This research aims to understand the role of Organ Transplant Coordinators as mediators in the field of organ donation and transplantation in India. Three prominent themes were explored: the importance of learning and knowledge in the work of an Organ Transplant Coordinator, the role played by kinship and loyalty versus transaction in the process, and the need for recognition of the coordinators. The study questions whether organ donation can be viewed as a gift, commodity, or exchange of value.

Research Methodology: Qualitative research methodology was incorporated through three approaches. Firstly, in-person semi-structured interviews were conducted with seven Organ Transplant Coordinators across Maharashtra. Secondly, participant observation was employed by shadowing the coordinators and conducting field visits at both public and private hospitals in Mumbai and Nagpur. Thirdly, scholarly works of sociologists and anthropologists such as Veena Das, Max Weber, Margaret Lock, Lawrence Cohen, and Nancy Scheper-Hughes were referenced.

Results: The interviews and fieldwork revealed an emerging pattern of immense satisfaction and utmost dedication among Organ Transplant Coordinators in their work. There is a steep learning curve, and they serve as the backbone of the transplant program. Inspired by Weber's work, the research considered whether there is a sense of religious calling associated with the vocation of an Organ Transplant Coordinator, potentially linking it to a sense of higher purpose in the Weberian sense. This inquiry led to a deeper understanding of the coordinators'

experiences and their role in mediating among various social actors in the organ donation ecosystem.

Conclusion: Organ Transplant Coordinators play a critical role not only in changing the narrative around organ transplantation but also in managing the heavy responsibility of communication and coordination among multiple social actors within the organ donation and transplantation ecosystem.

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Poster presentations:

Presenting Author: Saranya S

Institution's name: Kerala State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization,
Thiruvananthapuram

Title of the Paper: Attitude Towards Brain Stem Death Certification and Declaration Among ICU Doctors.

Introduction: Brain stem death is a critical concept in medical practice. Proper certification ensures an accurate determination of death, which is essential for making important medical decisions such as discontinuing life support and organ donation. Despite having proper guidelines for brain stem death certification and ventilator disconnection in Kerala, brain death is not promptly declared in ICUs.

Background: In Kerala, doctors are hesitant to certify or declare brain death in ICUs.

Aim of the Study: The study aimed to understand the diverse viewpoints and potential obstacles to brain stem death certification in the state.

Methods: A 28-question survey was sent to anaesthesiologists, intensive care specialists, neurologists, and neurosurgeons. The survey was completed by 36 physicians, and a quantitative analysis was conducted on the collected data.

Results: Ninety-one percent of respondents agreed with the definition of a deceased person as stated in the Transplantation of Human Organs Act (THO Act), which states that a deceased person is one in whom the permanent disappearance of all evidence of life occurs due to brain-stem death. Eighty-six percent considered the diagnosis of death by neurologic criteria sufficient to disconnect the ventilator and cease all treatment support. Eighty-three percent were currently practicing death diagnosis using neurologic criteria (brain stem death). However, only 66% agreed with video recording the entire process of brain death certification, while 16% disagreed. Additionally, 77% were willing to discuss organ donation with relatives after brain stem death certification, but 58% expressed concerns about potential future litigation if involved in the certification process.

Conclusions: To address the apprehensions among doctors, proper guidelines on brain stem death certification need to be established.

This was awarded the best poster award

Title of the Paper: Impact of Counselling for Corneal Donation at Govt. Medical College, Trauma Centre, Nagpur.

Presenting Author: Veena Wathore & Bhagyashree Nighot
Institution's name: Govt. Medical College, Nagpur

Introduction: The study examines the impact of the counselling process conducted by the MOHAN Foundation Transplant Coordinator, Bhagyashree Nighot, for the relatives of deceased patients regarding corneal donation over the past five years.

Methodology: Empirical data was collected from the Trauma Centre, and statistical analysis was performed to evaluate the counselling process's effectiveness during times of grief.

Results: The findings indicate a remarkable increase in the rate of corneal donations following the counselling sessions.

Conclusion: There is a need for more grief counsellors and public-private partnership support to effectively sustain this organ and tissue donation campaign.

Title of the Paper : Financial and Support services for Transplants – A NATCO & MF initiative

Presenting Author: Dr. Amit Joshi

Institution's name: Bombay Hospital, Indore

Introduction – Transplant surgeries are costly, and not all patients can afford the expenses involved. MOHAN Foundation and NATCO aimed to create a comprehensive knowledge bank compiling various financial schemes and entities, including government and NGO resources, that provide financial assistance for organ transplants and related costs.

Methodology – A framework for collecting information on financial support schemes was initially developed in Microsoft Excel, then converted into Google Forms. The form link was circulated to Transplant Coordinators (TCs) in each state, who filled in details about government and NGO entities and available schemes to support patients with organ failure in their respective states.

Results – MOHAN Foundation and NATCO compiled the data shared by TCs and released a detailed compendium, which has now become a key reference resource for supporting transplant patients nationwide.

Conclusion – Since health is a state subject in India, each state offers different schemes, but beneficiaries often lack awareness of these options. It is recommended that Central Government schemes be implemented in all government and private medical colleges to expand access to financial support for patients needing transplant surgeries.

Title of the Paper: Donor Family Rehabilitation - A Call for Compassionate Support and Recognition

Presenting Author: Dr. Anushree Nair & Ms Bhavna Jagwani

Institution's name: MOHAN Foundation Jaipur Citizen Forum, Jaipur

Introduction: Organ donor families are the unsung heroes of the organ donation movement, showing extraordinary courage amidst profound personal loss. Despite their significant contribution, these families often remain unacknowledged, and their sacrifices insufficiently

recognized. In Rajasthan, we connected with 63 families who donated a loved one's organs, revealing poignant accounts of the ongoing challenges they face.

Methodology: Through interviews and interactions, we gathered first-hand accounts from 63 families in Rajasthan who have donated a loved one's organs. These conversations highlighted both the financial and emotional challenges they continue to endure after their generous act.

Results: The findings revealed severe financial hardship for families who lost their primary breadwinners. Elderly parents who lost their sole support now struggle without adequate care. Additionally, many families reported social stigma, with some community members accusing them of selling their loved one's organs, a painful reminder of enduring myths and misconceptions. The lack of tangible state support has discouraged other families from considering donation, fearing similar hardships.

Recommendations: To honour the sacrifices of donor families and encourage more individuals to consider organ donation, it is essential to provide meaningful support and recognition. Initiatives such as free public transport, naming local health centers after deceased donors, or prioritizing donor families in medical services could serve as impactful steps toward acknowledging their invaluable contributions. By fostering a culture that values donor families, we can reinforce the idea that organ donation is an act of profound generosity, deeply respected by society.

Title of the Paper: Drive and Insights from a Chosen Group of Organ Donation Ambassadors to Enhance the Way Educational Training is Delivered

Presenting Author: Dr. Hemal Kanvinde; Ganesh C and Arshiya Fathima

Institution's name: MOHAN Foundation, Chennai

Introduction – The role of ambassadors is increasingly vital in driving social change. In organ donation initiatives, volunteers are trained as ambassadors to educate their communities on the benefits of organ donation. However, success criteria for these ambassadors have not been widely examined.

Methodology – This study presents findings from a qualitative analysis involving trained ambassadors who completed a brief questionnaire. Insights were gathered on their motivations, experiences, and feedback on the training received.

Results – Altruism emerged as the primary motivation for becoming an ambassador, with some having personal experiences related to organ failure in their families. Key findings suggest that training should prioritize simplicity and use of vernacular language. Ambassadors reported that self-improvement in self-awareness, communication, and resilience were key outcomes. Common challenges included addressing misconceptions and encountering disinterest from some senior figures. Despite these obstacles, ambassadors felt their efforts contributed to social improvement, reinforcing their commitment.

Conclusion – The study concludes that while citizen ambassadors are effective change agents, training them should also be seen as a form of leadership development.

Title of the Paper: Good Document Practices in Organ Transplant

Presenting Author: Gururajan Mohan; Dr. Sreejith Parameswaran & Mrs. Monica Devi
Kamalanathan

Institution's name: JIPMER, Puducherry

Introduction: Documents play a crucial role in fulfilling the legal requirements of the organ transplant procedure as stipulated in the Transplantation of Human Organs Act (THOA), 1994, and its subsequent modifications. They establish the validity of individual claims related to the transplant process and safeguard the transplant team from malpractices.

Good Documentation Practices (GDP): Good Documentation Practices should be permanent, legible, accurate, and consistent. Documentation must be traceable and complete, without deficiencies.

Types of Documents: Documents for transplants can be broadly classified into primary and supporting documents. Primary documents—such as Aadhar cards, birth certificates, passports, voter IDs, transfer certificates, and ration cards—should clearly establish the identity of both the recipient and donor. Supporting documents, including affidavits, relationship certificates, income certificates, nativity certificates, and legal heir certificates, should be issued by relevant authorities and substantiate the claims made by both parties.

Challenges: Transplant coordinators face numerous challenges in document preparation. Common issues include mismatches in names and addresses, errors in dates of birth, and inaccuracies in parental names. Additionally, delays in procuring supporting documents from the revenue department pose significant concerns for recipients and donors.

Recommendations: To simplify and unify the documentation process, it is suggested that a single document for both the recipient and donor be issued by the revenue department at the district magistrate level specifically for organ transplants. This unified document should be an online format with verification capabilities to prevent forgery. It must be cumulative and exhaustive, incorporating all details of the recipient and donor, including photographs.

Conclusion: The implementation of a unified document, approached with good intent, could significantly reduce the time and effort required from both the recipient and donor, thereby enhancing the overall organ transplant process.

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