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Awareness about organ donation in clinicians

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Abstract---Introduction: For persons with organ failure who have no other alternatives, organ donation (OD) is a life-saving option. Medical practitioners' knowledge, attitude, and behaviours are critical in promoting the beneficial impact of OD. As a result, it's critical to examine and comprehend medical health professionals' understanding and attitudes concerning cadaveric organ donation. Objectives: To investigate health care professionals' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours surrounding cadaveric organ donation, as well as their understanding of cadaveric organ donation's regulations. Materials and Procedures: Consulted the consultants, resident physicians, and nurses working in a tertiary health-care environment. A "self-administered questionnaire" was completed to evaluate their knowledge, attitudes, as well as behaviours surrounding cadaveric OD. The data was examined and reported as proportions and frequencies. Results: The near equal distribution between genders and community, Hindus made up 62 percent of the study's participants. The notion of cadaveric organ donation was familiar to all clinicians, and 89 percent of them would like to donate their organ. Although the majority of health care workers stated readiness to donate their organs; just a handful had rejected the initiative. Conclusion: The understanding of health care workers of cadaveric organ donation was found to be rather excellent, and their attitude toward the procedure was positive, as well. The degree of public awareness about OD laws was rather high.

Keywords---Organ Donation, Awareness, Health, Clinicians, Health Professionals.

Introduction

Organ donation can save the lives of those who have been dying due to organ failure and have no other choices. The rate of dead organ donation in India, which varies by region, is valued approximately to be 00.08 per million people each year (Jha, 2009). Although India ranks second in the world for live-donor transplants after the United States, it comes last on the list of countries that carry out dead

donor transplants (White et al., 2014; Shroff, 2009; Chugh, 2009; NRT, 2014). The idea of brain death is poorly understood by both health care professionals and the general public. Due to an absence of system preparation and inadequate inter-institutional connectivity, a huge percentage of volunteered people or family members of dead persons are not able to donate organs (Sachdeva, 2017). There might be a variety of factors that prohibit Indians from donating their organs. There is a critical need to raise OD awareness among professionals of health care, who may then inspire the general public. The goal of this study was to analyse health care professionals' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours about organ donation, as well as their understanding of organ donation legislation.

Objective

Below-mentioned are the objectives of the current study: -

1. To understand and assess the awareness about OD among the clinicians.
2. To find out the knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding OD.

Materials and Method

Clinicians with (MBBS/MD/MS/DNB) qualification participated in the study. Out of "143 doctors, 123 responded" in this cross-sectional study. A specifically created self-administered questionnaire made up of demographic profile and questions including awareness, attitudes, and beliefs towards OD was organized and circulated. The respondents had to point their responses as agree or disagree or no response –issues related to willingness of people to donate or receive an organ from transplantation, and objections to donation, spiritual and other beliefs towards donation were researched. The data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics.

Result

The population of the research consisted of 143 respondents of whom, 123 participated in the research. The mean age was "28.32 $\pm$ 3.50 years," max concentration was in the group of 55-65 of age. There was an almost an equal distribution between male and female. 62% belonged to Hindu religion, sixty-nine percent were married, fifty-four percent were from upper socio-economic background, and 14% chose not to reveal their income; 87% came from urban background. The concept of "cadaver as brain-death" was understood only by twenty-three percent, whereas fifty-three percent thought it meant a "dead person" and twenty-five percent didn't respond; the remaining participants gave a mixed response. About sixty-three percent of doctors weren't aware of any coordinating agency for OD. Only 23 % were aware of legal way of doing it. 93% could differentiate between "brain-death and persistent vegetative state." The majority (89%) said they would like to donate their organs, while six percent said no to OD.

Discussion

A majority of the participants in this research were aware of cadaveric OD; as all of the participants were involved in health care in some way. In this study, the

participants who were familiar with organ donation (89%) was lower than found in Bapat et al. (2010) studies among clinicians (96%) and medical students (89%). When it came to willingness to donate organs after death, 70.3 percent of consultants and 46.7 percent of nurses (Bogh and Madsen, 2005) wanting to do so, the current study found that clinicians had a higher degree of awareness (89 percent). This study shows that the people in this research had a far more positive outlook. The generally favourable views, lack of understanding, as well as indecisiveness about cadaveric OD in this research group highlight the need for interventions in the form of awareness programmes to increase cadaveric organ donation responsiveness.

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