



Investigation Respondent:

Doctor with Urological Surgery, Qinghai University-affiliated Hospital said there was only one living donor in many years in Qinghai.

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Summary

1. We perform kidney transplant.
2. But there is nothing. There just haven't been any now.
3. There was only one case of donation for many years now in Qinghai, this kind of living donor.
4. Kidney source involves the consent of patients. Is there anyone willing to donate it?
5. Question: Did you say the people here are more conservative, not willing to donate?
Answer: That's indeed the case. The kidney source is definitely scarce.
6. There was one donor here some time ago, it's the first patient I just mentioned. There were two kidneys, one kidney was given to a Guangdong guy who came here to get the transplant. The other recipient was a local person in Qinghai.
7. The organ is sometimes sent to Guangzhou. Anyway, it depends on the situation, such as timing and so on. .
8. Many kidneys were obtained from prisoners in the past.
9. The person in charge of organ transplant is Li Ning.
10. You can make appointment with Director Chen Guojun some day and ask him.

Investigation Recording

Doctor: Hello.

Investigator: Hello, is this ...Kidney Transplant at Qinghai (University) Affiliated Hospital? Hi.

Doctor: Uh, what's up?

Investigator: If I take my husband to to your hospital for kidney transplant, shall we get hospitalized immediately and then just wait for kidney transplant? Or what?

Doctor: No, no, it is not like that. I don't...I don't know much about this thing either. It seems pretty complicated. We've got to check if there is any kidney source first. Uh.

Investigator: Oh, doesn't the hospital have...aren't you the only hospital in Qinghai that performs kidney transplant?



Doctor: Yeah, we do perform kidney transplant, but we do it only when kidney becomes available, understand? And this kidney source is allocated by the state.

Investigator: State allocated?

Doctor: Yeah, that's right. But there is nothing. There just haven't been any now.

Investigator: Do you mean there is no kidney source in our Qinghai province? Why? Isn't there no kidney source in such a large province?

Doctor: This province only has the population of five million. How many people do you think there are?

Investigator: A population of five million in Qinghai. Then...

Doctor: Let me tell you, I you listen to me first. I don't know much about this thing either because, for one thing, I don't know much about the technique either. Because this...it seems there's a...it is pretty complicated. We have someone specifically taking care of this. For kidney transplant, the first thing is to have a matching kidney source. There is also a platform... to make registration. You need to register all required information over there and wait for their kidney source. If you don't register, you won't get a kidney even there is such source. Do you get it? Because probably there are already a lot of people waiting there before you, right?

Investigator: Oh, tell me, here...

Doctor: It's not like, you want to get hospitalized and have a kidney transplant done, it's not that simple. It is very complicated.

Investigator: So I ...I feel this hospital is the only one qualified in Qinghai Province. There should be something like death from car accident or brain dead patients. I feel if we do it here, there should be plenty of those very soon, right?

Doctor: How could there be that many? I am telling you, for many years now, there was only one voluntary donor in Qinghai Province. Just like this kind of living body with brain dead, that just happened, there was only one case. Do you get that?

Investigator: Only one donor?

Doctor: Yeah, that's right. For so many years, there was only one case of donation, this kind of living donor.

Investigator: Oh...

Doctor: Uh, it is very few and very hard. The organ transplant... organ transplant actually is pretty hard. Oh, you've got to wait~

Investigator: So~

Doctor: Organ, you need to wait for spare organ~

Investigator: Can't we use the organs from those who died in the traffic accidents?

Doctor: Let me tell you, this thing involves a lot of things. First, it involves patient's consent. Is there anyone willing to donate this? Do you get that?

Investigator: Uh, right, so~

Doctor: Anyway, I am telling you that one reason is due to small population. The other reason is the mechanisms are relatively lacking in our ethnic minority areas here.



Investigator: Uh, did you say people here are more conservative, not willing to donate or what?

Doctor: Well, that must be it. I am telling you that the kidney source is definitely scarce. Uh.

Investigator: Uh.

Doctor: Definitely scarce.

Investigator: Huh?

Doctor: Uh. They will call you to rush here after getting the kidney source. That is the case.

Investigator: Hey, so you said...

Doctor: Yeah, that is right.

Investigator: If it is allocated by the state, can we get the transplant done anywhere as long as we register in the system?

Doctor: Hey, like I said, I don't know much about this either.

Investigator: So...here...

Doctor: Here...

Investigator: Who is taking charge?

Doctor: The person who just took charge here happens to be away. He went to the countryside in Yushu. There is specific personnel responsible for this area.

Investigator: Oh, is he the program director?

Doctor: No, he is not director. You can make appointment with the director some day and come over to ask, or get a consultation.

Investigator: What is the name of the director?

Doctor: He is Director Chen Guojun. You can ask him.

Investigator: Oh, Chen Guojun. Is he the primary surgeon for the operation?

Doctor: Not necessarily.

Investigator: Ah, he doesn't perform the surgery, then...who will do it?

Doctor: Don't ask about the surgery first. You need to see if it can be matched....

Doctor: Matched. Let me tell you it was just done some time ago.

Investigator: Oh?

Doctor: We've just done that some time ago.

Investigator: You've just done one case.

Doctor: The primary surgeon is an expert from Xian.

Investigator: Where? From Xian?

Doctor: Yeah.

Investigator: How long did he wait?



Doctor: Hey, I am not clear of that.

Investigator: Oh, you don't know how long he'd waited.

Doctor: Uh.

Investigator: Huh.

Doctor: Right.

Investigator: An Xian expert was invited.

Doctor: It happened it was matched, and then matching... Oh, he was actually not invited, but assigned by the state to rush here to do it. There happened to be one donor here, it was the first case I just mentioned, and that is, the patient just mentioned, who had two kidneys. One kidney was given to a Guangdong guy who came here to get the surgery. The other one was a local person in Qinghai, who had a match. Uh.

Investigator: Oh...Oh~

Doctor: It is quite complicated. Not as simple as you wish that you come over here and get it done. It is very complicated.

Investigator: What you said about this living donor~

Doctor: Come over here to see our director.

Investigator: Sounds good... tell me, doctor, for this living body transplant, how does this living body donation work? That is, the ones we might have?

Doctor: In the past, many kidneys were obtained from prisoners. Do you understand ?

Investigator: Uh.

Doctor: Obtained from death-row-inmates.

Investigator: Uh.

Doctor: Now this ... this road is blocked. This road is gone now and no longer available. It is only through donation now, ah, but the donation takes so, so long to get a case.

Investigator: Oh, as you said, the living body...for living body transplant, he is not that kind of death-row-inmate, he is not dead. How does a living body make a donation? One could apply for it?

Doctor: That is, the person~

Investigator: Tell me how this living body donation works?

Doctor: Hey, the organ donation now is voluntary. For example, when someone is brain dead, or this person had a car accident, and the family member agrees to donate the organ, then there comes it. It was obtained from death-row-inmates but the state doesn't allow...to get it now.

Investigator: Uh. When did you stop getting it from the death-row-inmates?

Doctor: Hey, I am not clear about that.

Investigator: Oh...

Doctor: You want...



Investigator: Ah, oh... right, the key is if we can be that lucky to run into one of these. You said we just see the director, the one named Chen Guojun, right?

Doctor: Yes.

Investigator: Uh.

Doctor: Yeah, you can ask him.

Investigator: Uh, you tell me...

Doctor: Now, the main thing is you register in that data bank first. There should be something like Chinese Medicine bank, like for organ donation. You enter your blood type and all sort of information and then wait for notice. Whenever there is a matching organ, no matter where it is, you've got to run over there. That's the way it is.

Investigator: Oh, that's how it works So it is not that we are waiting here and the organ will be brought here. Just like you said, when we had the donation of kidney source here, and the matched Guangzhou guy came over here instead of transporting the organ to Guangzhou.

Doctor: Right.

Investigator: Oh.

Doctor: It depends on the situation. The organ is sometimes taken to Guangzhou. Anyway, it depends. It all depends on things like the schedule or who matches, it depends on the situation.

Investigator: Oh, that's how things are.

Doctor: Well, that's all I can tell you. I can't talk too much! I am pretty busy while on duty. All right?

Investigator: Oh. Could you tell me the name of the person in charge of organ donation besides the director? I will call him another day. I'll ask him, he should be familiar with the situation.

Doctor: He is away, not here, gone to the countryside.

Investigator: He has gone to the countryside. What is his name?

Doctor: His name is Li Ning.

Investigator: Uh, okay. Then I'll call him and ask him. How much do we need to prepare for the surgery? As you mentioned last time, for the whole process of such a surgery, how much money we need to have available?

Doctor: Uh, sorry, I am not clear of that.

Investigator: Uh, you haven't heard of that either? Uh~

Doctor: It is not I haven't heard of that. Money is not the issue. Surgery itself is not expensive. But in the later stage you need to take those immunity drugs, and the cost in the later stage may be higher.

Investigator: Don't we need to prepare cash?

Doctor: You can ask our director, all right?

Investigator: Ask director. All right then. I will give him a ring. All right. Appreciate it. See you.

Doctor: Sure thing.