



Investigation Respondent: Duty Staff of the Red Cross Society of Anshan City

Investigation Date: September 15, 2020 (86-412-2516177)

Summary

1. There is not one case of organ donation this year.
2. There were very few before. Because the kidneys that could be used after people died were very few, it was not like the kind with the young people. And basically, the organs we can use here are all corneas. And what we have are basically people of old age, and when people of old age die, their kidneys basically can't be used.
3. This year the province has a new rule: the eye tissues are now all handled by the Health and Family Planning Committee. And the Health and Family Planning Committees of various cities have set up their own eye tissues banks, and the organs basically belong to their eye tissues.
4. There are very few people coming to us making organ donations. Organs from people of natural death cannot be used. If the hospital does not come to us for donation witness, we won't know it. They are all unnatural deaths, and we have very few this kind.
5. And we are not clear about where exactly the hospital has taken the organs.

Investigation Recording

Investigator: Hey! Hello, it is the Red Cross of Anshan City, right?

Red Cross: Yes.

Investigator: I would like to ask you something, because my family member wanted to have a kidney transplant at Anshan Steel & Iron Company General Hospital, and when I called the hospital director, she said there were few donors, and she said it was the brain-dead type. I would like to ask if our Red Cross has organ donations, that is, if there are many, and if we should wait here.

Red Cross: We don't have any right now.

Investigator: Do you mean no one donated organs?

Red Cross: Correct, right now this year, there was none.

Investigator: Oh, there was none this year. Was there any before? If you had them before, how many of those could be used for kidney transplant surgery? Should we wait here? Do we have a chance here?

Red Cross: Very few. Why? Because the kidneys that could be used after people died were very few, it was not like the kind with the young people. And basically, the organs we can use here are all corneas. Besides, this year the province has a new rule: the eye tissues are now all handled by the Health and Family Planning Committee.

Investigator: You were saying, as of now, donations are no longer handled by our Red Cross, and you said, they are handled by the health and family planning committees?

Red Cross: The eye tissues... the health and family planning committees of various cities have set up their own eye tissue banks. The organs, eye tissues, basically are handled by them. And we basically handle people of old age; when people of old age die, their kidneys basically cannot be used.

Investigator: That's right. Kidneys from people who are old definitely cannot be used. One spends a lot of money and for sure wants to have a better one, one from a young donor. And if it's the kind she mentioned, the one that comes from a brain-dead patient, if that kind is used, will you, the Red Cross, be aware of it? It will be through you, right?



Red Cross: He has to come to us to file for donation beforehand. If he does not offer to make donations, we won't know it. And we have very few of this kind, that is, unnatural deaths. There are very few people coming to us making human organ donations.

Investigator: You were saying, only those usual donations that come from a citizen who has registered with you beforehand will go through you, and as to the ones from car or other accidents, from those being rescued in the hospital, if their family members are willing to donate, or the organs that can be used, they will not be distributed through you, will they?

Red Cross: No, no, no. We only play a witness role.

Investigator: Ah, when I asked just now, she said that the type of patients who are brain dead are all...because aren't these things all handled by the Red Cross? But you said, in future not only cornea, but all such organs are no longer handled by you, is that right? Just now you said something that I don't quite understand.

Red Cross: It's not that we handle none of them. Generally speaking, you need young donors, but we don't have them here.

Investigator: Okay, now I understand. In that case we are less likely to have it done here. The other day the director also said that they did few, so I wanted to ask you, and there might be a chance if you had the organ here, so that we don't have to go that far.

Red Cross: Right, right. The thing is, we don't have it here. And even if we had it, we could only act as a witness, not a distributor.

Investigator: But if there are even no donors, what's there for them to distribute? There's no registration when there are no donors. There have to be donors first, and what you say may not count. But there are no donors, so nothing can be done.

Red Cross: But with us, even though there were donors, they were basically natural deaths. Rarely did we have cases of donors who died of car accidents.

Investigator: Oh, tell me, of those who died of natural causes, and whose organs could be used, what diseases did they have?

Red Cross: No, they cannot be used.

Investigator: That's right, but tell me, those who died of unexpected cause, that is, those who were in car accidents, wouldn't they try to rescue them? Or organs from those who had an accident while working at heights, and who were rushed to the hospital for rescue-- only those organs can be used, is that right?

Red Cross: Right, and then we are not clear about where exactly the hospital has taken the organs.

Investigator: You were saying the organs may not necessarily be assigned to a certain hospital, right? Where exactly have they gone is unknown.

Red Cross: Right, right, right.

Investigator: Alright, thanks. Bye bye!

Red Cross: Okay, no problem, bye!