



Investigation Respondent: Hubei Province Red Cross Northern Provincial Organ Donation Office

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Summary

Question: How many donated organs from the Hubei Red Cross Society can be used for transplant patients each year?

Answer: We had 600 donations last year.

Question: The impact of the pandemic this year is quite large. How many donations can there be this year? There must be fewer, right?

Answer: Then I really don't know. I don't have that data here.

Question: Are there still Falun Gong practitioners' organs?

Answer: The government has abolished that. Starting from January 1, 2015, it has been abolished nationwide.

Question: At the emergency room of Tongji Hospital, if there is an accident, and they are willing to donate...the family is willing to donate the organ... will that kind of organ need to be witnessed by... that is, will it need paperwork from the Red Cross? Or can the hospital use it itself?

Answer: Donation and transplantation are separate. If you ask me about transplantation, I suggest you ask the hospital. We do not know about that. We only have donation information here.

Question: Is it true that donors obtained by large hospitals can be used by those hospitals without having to go through you?

Answer: It does not go through us.

Question: You handle organ donation procedures for patients in the hospital's ICU. This is your workflow. And you are still not sure?

Answer. Right. There are several statistics, and we are only...we are only responsible for the middle part. So when you ask me about transplantation, we really don't know. You can ask the hospital.

Investigation Recording

Doctor: Hello?

Investigator: Hi! Is this our Hubei Province Organ Donation Office?

Doctor: Yes, hi.

Investigator: Hi. This is my situation. May I ask you something...we wanted to do liver transplant surgery at Tongji Hospital, and it's for my husband. Then the doctor said that the waiting time would be long, and that the organs used are all allocated by the Red Cross. The organs approved by you are all donated or from brain-dead patients. It's because she said she was not sure how long we have to wait,



I would like to ask if there are many donated organs here? Is it true that if there are many donations and I wait here, the chance for surgery will come faster?

Doctor: Well, this is what it's like. We, the Red Cross, are responsible for the promotion and registration of organ donation. The allocation and transplantation you are talking about is the hospital's business. Er, it is not us that allocates. There is a... the country has a system for allocation, and this system is with the National Health Commission, not the Red Cross.

Investigator: That's ... then for a year (Doctor: This is what it's like) Our Red Cross, let's say, in Hubei, how many donations do we have each year, which can be used for transplant patients? How many are there?

Doctor: We ...this is, I ... I ..., you put your question this way, but it's hard for me to answer. We had 600 donations last year. This is what I could tell you, okay?

Investigator: Oh, there were 600 last year, so that's... it seems quite a lot, right? Is over 600 considered a lot?

Doctor: Uh...it's the norm, I'd say, yes. The patient needs to wait in line at the hospital first.

Investigator: I'm already in line, I registered, and I did it there before. Then tell me...besides promotion and registration, how many donations can you have this year? This year the pandemic has had a great impact, there won't be ... you will have far fewer for sure, won't you?

Doctor: That I really don't know, I don't have that data.

Investigator: Oh, then ...besides donated organs, are there other types of organs that can be used? The ones used for transplant patients, is this the only channel?

Doctor: yes.

Investigator: The number of more than 600 you mentioned (Doctor: Right) is for our entire Hubei Province, and they are all normally used for patients like us, and it's not the number of people registered for donation, right?

Doctor: Right.

Investigator: The thing is, the donor may not die this year even though he's registered; it's not like that. Registered ones and actual...ones used for our patients are not the same thing.

Doctor: Right, that's why I told you just now that the website of the Chinese Human Organ Donation Management Center shows how many people who have completed donations each year, and that data can be seen on that website.

Investigator: Is that the data used on patients?

Doctor: Right.

Investigator: Ah?

Doctor: Yes.

Investigator: Oh, that's good, then I can check it out. By the way, I would like to ask you one more thing, and that is, because I have friends...I wanted to ask...they all mentioned there were once those organs from death row prisoners, those inmates in prison, and Falun Gong practitioners. And are there now...

Doctor: The government has banned those. Starting from January 1, 2015, they were banned nationwide.



Investigator: Then let me ask you this...that is, for instance, since Tongji Hospital is fairly large, at the emergency room like that of Tongji Hospital, if, for example, there is a person in an accident, who's willing to donate, and their family is willing to donate the organ... will that organ also need to go through the Red Cross, that is, will it need its endorsement? That is, will it need witnessing? Or can the hospital use it itself?

Doctor: Donation and transplantation are separate. If you ask me about transplantation, I suggest you ask the hospital. We do not know about that. We only have donation information here.

Investigator: Oh, what I mean is, for example, someone died in the emergency room, would the hospital inform you, the Red Cross, for you to witness, to see that this person was willing to donate organs? Will you be notified?

Doctor: Uh, this is our own internal business, you can't ... I am not supposed to disclose it to you. If you ask me how many donations we have completed last year, or how many registered people we have, this is okay. As for how to line up, and so on, the hospital, you can ask the hospital for that, because we are not one system.

Investigator: Oh, that means, the hospital itself...if its outpatient clinic has a large workload, the hospital can make decisions on its own without going through you, right?

Doctor: It's not they'd go through us. It's the country has an allocation system. Everything's done through the national allocation system, so I suggest that you go ask the hospital where you are on the waiting list.

Investigator: Oh, yes, I ... I have registered with Tongji Hospital now, as well as the Union Hospital, the two hospitals in Wuhan. And then I wanted to go...because I was unable to get in line, I wanted to try Shulan Hospital, so I...that is, if you say, for instance, there are more than 600, and you do not include the large number of clinic patients in the hospital, if there are cases like emergency patients, then I will not change my mind, because his condition is not good now. If you say that includes everything, then we might need to go line up in more hospitals, the large ones.

Doctor: I think you can ask transplant hospitals. Some of their information should be more helpful to you. I don't have the kind of information you wanted here.

Investigator: Oh, then I understand, that is, it's not included, right?

Doctor: Uh, what I mean is, it's better you just ask hospitals.

Investigator: Hmm.

Doctor: What I could tell you would not be accurate, okay? It could be like this ... I can only put it this way.

Investigator: Uh, not accurate ...? I thought these are all your procedures. So just ask hospitals...not through you...you only deal with donations. This is what you meant, right? And the ICU at hospitals ...

Doctor: Yes, there are several statistics. We are only ... we are only responsible for the middle part, so if you ask me about transplantation at a later stage, we really don't know. You can ask hospitals, is that okay?

Investigator: Uh okay, let me think about it. I haven't figured it out, so let me think about it. Okay, thank you, thank you for your help, thanks.