

ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION IN UKRAINE: ANALYSIS OF MODERN ETHICAL ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES

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Introduction: Nowadays around 26-28 thousand transplantations are done annually in USA; in Spain —over 3 thousand; in Poland over 1.5 thousand. Among the post-Soviet countries Estonia is leading in the number of transplantations, annually 46.2 of them are done per 1 million population, in Latvia — 36.2 and in Lithuania — 22.4 per 1 million population. Every year in Ukraine 2 thousand people demand a heart- transplantology, but only 8 operations were completed since 2001. Each year 4 thousand people demand a transplantation of kidney— in the best case only 100 of them get it. 2-2.5 thousand of patients need a liver transplantation – and only 30-40 people receive it. Despite the fact, that Ukraine was one of the first countries in which organ transplantations were done and the quality of work corresponds to international level, nowadays Ukraine is among outsiders in this area. The reason is in a number of barriers that stop the development of the national transplantology system. One of those barriers is imperfection of Legal Framework.

Purpose of the study: analyzing the causes of imperfections of Ukrainian transplantation system and the obstacles encountered on the way to address this issue.

Materials and methods: for realization of research were used historical method, methods of system analysis and synthesis.

Results: In spite of the fact that every year thousands of people are quicken by virtue of organ transplantations, moral and ethical issues, as well as imperfection of Legal Framework are still inhibitory factors in this medical field. Due to expert evidence, the main problem of the Ukrainian transplantology system is the lack of clear management and coordination of appropriate services, which development is braked by ineffective and irrelevant Legal Framework. In this connection the criticality of the financial issue of national transplantology is increased.

Since the adoption of Ukrainian Law «About organs transplantation and other anatomical materials» the total number of transplantation in Ukraine has decreased significantly – nowadays annual amount of operations is about one hundred. In comparison in Spain which is equal to Ukraine by area an population the annual number of transplantations is over 3 thousand.

As well reforms in our system and reorganization of transplantology services are necessary. Also it is important to solve a problem of procedure of organ removal from deceased donors. Artical 16 of the Ukrainian Law «About organs transplantation and other anatomical materials» means so-called presumption of

disagreement, which essence is in members` of the society lifetime disagreement for organ removal from deceased donors. In case of absolute disagreement person has a right to use a written waiver. As a result, there is a lack of cadaveric organs for transplantations, which complicates with lack of coordination system of cadaveric donation, negative attitude of society to this kind of donation as well as aggressive perception of this issue.

What are the negative and positive aspects of the acting presumption of disagreement in our time? One of the imperfections is excessive psychological stress for family when they need to make a decision. For elimination of this defect in Germany and Scandinavian countries doctors use so-called "principle of the information model". According to it family members don`t need to make a quick decision about the organ removal. After being informed they have to express their agreement or disagreement in a set time. In our practice Ukrainian doctors rarely get an agreement from family members about the organ removal. As a result large number of patients whose lives could be saved due to cadaveric donation don`t get a needed operation.

According to experts, the new law about cadaveric donation can radically change the situation of Ukrainian transplantology. Since 2012, a bill is considered , according to which every Ukrainian can become an organ donor after death, if a refuse wasn`t officially registered . At the same time doctors wouldn`t need a family agreement for transplantation. Problem of organ donation shortage can be solved by adoption of this bill. It is necessary to conduct a survey of the population, so that everyone could express their agreement or disagreement for their organs to be transplanted after death. According to experts, the doubts in society about the adoption of this law explains the basic ignorance of the principles of cadaveric donation. To solve this problem it is important to conduct informational work with the population.

Conclusions: To sum up, it is necessary to adapt laws to society needs and to accomplish a social informational campaign, that could disclose possibilities and benefits of organ donation. For example in Spain, Poland, Belarus and in other countries social programs coordinated by government played an important role. As a result these countries became leaders in number of transplantations over the past decades.

Despite the large number of arguments and counter-arguments experts agree that development of transplantology is necessary to save patients with hopeless condition. That is why it is important to revive the development of transplantation system in Ukraine based on the need to change the legal framework and an active social support.