
Assessment of Knowledge and Attitude Regarding Organ Donation among Care Givers Of Patient

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Abstract:

Organ donation is a genuine way of saving the life of others. Organ donation should be seen as the gift of life. But people are having very less knowledge regarding organ donation. The objectives were to assess the knowledge, attitude and willingness regarding organ donation, to associate knowledge and attitude on organ donation with selected. Demographic variables such as gender, religion, educational status, residence and occupation among care givers of patients. A cross sectional design was used. A total of 300 samples were selected by using convenient sampling technique. The result of the study revealed 181(60%) had inadequate knowledge and 98(33%) had moderately adequate knowledge and 21(7%) had adequate knowledge about organ donation. The level of attitude of the subject 288(96%) of them had favourable attitude and 12(4%) of them had unfavourable attitude. Regarding willingness 123(41%) of care givers were willing to donate the organ, 177(59%) not willing to donate the organ. There was a significant association of knowledge and attitude between demographic variables such as residence, educational status and occupation ($p < 0.001$).

Key words: *Organ Donation, knowledge and attitude*

INTRODUCTION

The vital organs fail due to end stage renal, hepatic, pulmonary and cardiac disorder. When medical treatment is no longer effective, the surgical intervention need to be considered for treatment of organ failure, especially, the organ transplantation.¹

However, because of the limited number of organ donors, many patients die while waiting for transplantation.⁴ Organs donated save lives. Tissue donation,

Although not specifically life saving, does significantly improve the quality of life for multitudes of people.²

In India ,500,000 people die because of non-availability of organs and 200,000 people die of liver disease, 50,000 people die from heart disease , 150,000 people await a kidney transplant but only 5,000 get one and 1,000,000 lakh people suffer from corneal blindness awaiting transplant.³

Objectives:

- To assess the knowledge and attitude about organ donation among care givers of patient.
- To assess the willingness to donate organ among care givers of patient.
- To associate knowledge and attitude on organ donation with selected. Demographic variables

Research Methodology:

A descriptive design was used to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding organ donation among care givers of patient at RMMCH, Chidambaram. A total of 300 samples were selected by convenience sampling technique. The data collection was done from both male and female care givers of patients who got admitted in medical, surgical, orthopaedics by using structured knowledge, attitude and willingness about organ donation among care givers of patient by interview schedule. After data collection information Booklet on organ donation was given to the care givers of patient.

The conceptual framework used for this study is Health Belief Model developed by Rosenstock's (1974) and Becker and Maimans (1975)

Results

The study revealed that 181(60%) had inadequate knowledge and 98(33%) had moderately adequate knowledge and 21(7%) had adequate knowledge about organ donation. The level of attitude of the subject 288(96%) of them had favourable attitude and 12(4%) of them had unfavourable attitude. Regarding willingness 123(41%) of care givers were willing to donate the organ, 177(59%) not willing to donate the organ. There was a significant association of knowledge and attitude between demographic variables such as residence, educational status and occupation ($p < 0.001$) and there was no significant association of knowledge Vs gender, religion and attitude Vs gender, religion

Table 1 shows the frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge of care givers regarding organ donation. Most of the care givers of patients totaling 181(60%) had inadequate knowledge, 98 (33%) had moderately adequate knowledge and 21(7%) had adequate knowledge about organ donation.

Table 1: Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Level Knowledge on Organ Donation among the Care Givers **N=300**

S.no	Level of knowledge	Score	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Inadequate knowledge	< 13(50%)	181	60%
2.	Moderately adequate knowledge	14-20 (51- 79%)	98	33%
3.	Adequate knowledge	>21 (80%)	21	7%

Table 2: Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Attitude on Organ Donation among the Care Givers **N=300**

<i>S.no</i>	<i>Level of attitude</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	<i>Unfavorable attitude</i>	<i><30</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>4%</i>
2.	<i>Favorable attitude</i>	<i>>30</i>	<i>288</i>	<i>96%</i>

Table 2 shows the frequency distribution of level of attitude about organ donation among 300 care givers. Totally, 288(96%) of the study participants had favourable attitude only 12(4%) of them had unfavourable attitude regarding organ donation

Table 3 Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Willingness to Donate the Organ among the Care Givers **N=300**

<i>S.no</i>	<i>Level of willingness</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1	<i>Willing to donate the organ</i>	<i>123</i>	<i>41%</i>
2	<i>Not willing to donate the organ</i>	<i>177</i>	<i>59%</i>

Table 3 shows the frequency and percentage distribution of willingness to donate the organ among 300 care givers. Totally, 123(41%) of the subjects were willing to donate the organ, 177(59%) of the subjects were not willing to donate the organ.

Recommendations

- A comparative study can be conducted in different rural and urban areas.
- A similar study can be conducted with a large sample for better generalization
- Studies can be conducted on the factors influencing people decision to offer organ donation.
- Mass education through regional languages should be provided to educate public regarding organ donation.

Conclusion

The study revealed that Majority of the care givers had lack of awareness, inadequate knowledge and favourable attitude about organ donation. Most of the care givers were not willing to donate the organ. The knowledge and attitude level had significant association with the residence, educational statuses, occupation of care givers of patient.

References

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