How does the Government Encourage People to Take an Active Part in Developing Organ Donation?

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Abstract: In today's society, organ transplantation has been further popularized. The technology in each country has improved greatly compared with the past, but many patients still die because they do not get a new organ in time. In this paper, I will investigate the reasons why people are unwilling to participate in organ donation, or even hate it, and how government departments can improve people's enthusiasm to participate in organ donation. The questionnaire consisted of ten questions, and Chinese citizens were invited to participate in the survey through wechat. After analyzing the results of the questionnaire survey, I will design relevant policies for the government to implement according to the situation. Through the questionnaire survey, it was found that most people do not know the policy of organ donation in China, especially the government subsidy standard for organ donors, because they know little about organ donation. The government can spread its policy on organ donation through the Internet or the media to at least let people know about it.

Keywords: Organ donation, improved policies

1. Introduction

With the continuous development of medical technology and level, when organ failure occurs, more hospitals are willing to choose organ transplantation for patients with organ failure to save their lives to the greatest extent. However, behind the continuation of the lives of others, there are always a group of unselfish, unknown organ donors. However, there are not too many people with such dedication in the society, which leads to the imbalance between the number of organs supplied and the number of organs needed. Every day, many patients still die because they have no chance to replace organs in time. In order to alleviate this phenomenon, the Regulations on Human Organ Transplantation issued by the central government of the People's Republic of China states that each organ donor's family can receive a stipend and government praise. But even though the government has introduced this policy, not many people are willing to take the initiative to learn about organ donation, and the number of organ donors has not increased significantly.

2. Literature Review

When the act of organ donation is defined, donation represents the nature of unpaid. What these organ donors are doing is noble and honorable. They are showing the spirit of selfless dedication, but they are not selling organs for money. Therefore, the Central Government of the People's Republic of
China (2007) also stipulated that no organization or individual shall buy or sell human organs in any form or engage in activities related to the sale of human organs.

According to the seventh Regulation of the Regulations on Human Organ Transplantation issued by the Central Government of the People's Republic of China, when human organ donation is made, it should only follow the principle of voluntary and free of charge [1]. Citizens have only the right to donate or not to donate their organs, and there are no other special benefits. However, this does not mean that these organ donors will not receive any reward, after all, the spirit of giving their organs to others is also worthy of praise. But different places also have different policies about how to give back to organ donors. For mainland China, as already mentioned, organ donation is voluntary and unpaid. However, the government does provide humanitarian assistance to the families of some poor donors. However, in China, the regulations and policies of each province are different. The amount of aid should be determined based on the wealth of each organ donor's family, so there are still some differences in the end. In Taiwan, for example, the government not only provides aid but also funeral grants to the families of organ donors. There are two types of aid for different organs: 1. Corneal donors can get NT $50,000. 2. Organ donors will receive NT $100,000. The family members of the deceased for organ donation or transplantation shall be praised by the county or municipal government. What the Taiwan government has done is not only show respect and awe for the donors, but also gratitude and care for their families.

However, recently there has been some debate on the Internet about whether organ donors should receive more financial rewards or compensation. One side thinks that allowing organ donors to get more feedback will make more people pay attention to organ donation or get more people to take the initiative. According to statistics, from 2015 to 2020, a total of 29,334 cases of post-death organ donations were made in China, with the organ donation rate per million population rising from 2.01 in 2015 to 3.70 in 2020, ranking second in the world in both organ donation and transplantation. Zheng Zhe reported that the 30-day, 1-year and 3-year survival rates after heart transplantation in China from 2015 to 2020 were 92.6%, 85.3% and 80.4%, respectively [2]. Zheng Shusen stated that from 2015 to 2020, the 1-year and 3-year cumulative survival rates of recipients of liver transplantation with organ donation after a citizen's death were 83.6% and 74.9%, respectively [4]. This shows that the clinical experience of transplantation surgery in China has improved greatly in recent years, and the current technology is quite mature, especially the efficacy of transplantation surgery in some major transplant centers has reached the international advanced level.

Although in recent years, more and more Chinese citizens are willing to selflessly donate their organs to strangers, it is still far less than the number of patients who need organ transplants. About 2 million people worldwide need organ transplants each year, but the global average ratio of organ supply to need is 1:20 to 1:30. Of these, only about 1,500 teenagers and children in China are able to receive organ transplants each year and have a new life. At present, China has very rich clinical experience in surgery, so the domestic organ transplantation is mainly for the four organs of heart, lung, liver and kidney. Among them, kidney transplantation and liver transplantation are the most, and the number of liver transplantation basically accounts for 30%-35% of all organ transplants each year [5]. The need for these two organs is mainly due to the increasing pressure in today's society. Many young people have problems in kidney and liver function due to poor life and eating habits. Such as long-term work, can not ensure enough sleep time. Or always easy to get angry, as well as a lot of drinking and excessive fatigue, these harmful physical behavior will have a certain harm to the liver and kidney.

So China's top priority is to find more willing organ donors from the right channels. The government should speed up the revision and improvement of the Regulations on Human Organ Transplantation (2007) and provide a complete legal framework for voluntary organ donation after a citizen's death. The second is to crack down on illegal organ trading. The state and government should
intensify supervision and make new and greater contributions to the construction of a human health
community and the protection of people’s health rights and interests.

In order to set an example for the people, medical workers from many hospitals have taken the
lead. For example, on June 11, 2022, a total of 1,062 doctors and nurses in Huangmei Hospital of
Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University volunteered to become organ donation volunteers. The
hospital has also become the first medical institution in China to register all its staff as organ donors.
Set an example for the whole country.

Although the organ transplant business is difficult, there is a way to promote it. It just needs the
common participation of the whole society. The government is also trying to let more citizens know
about organ donation through the power of media and diversified forms of communication, and take
the initiative to join the team of transmitting the positive energy of human warmth. The whole society
will work together to make the relay of life continue in China through medical methods. Finally, this
will also greatly promote the development of organ donation and transplant in our country.

3. Method Section

This paper uses the survey method to understand the thoughts of people who are unwilling to
participate in organ donation and those who are willing to participate in organ donation through
questionnaire survey (for the latter: the reasons why they are unwilling to participate in organ
donation), compares the two groups of data, and summarizes the reasons according to the survey
results. Make changes to existing government policies. The questionnaire will contain ten questions.
(Two multiple choice questions, eight single choice questions) The questions mainly include the
respondent's gender, age, current willingness to donate organs, and understanding and views on organ
donation.

4. Discussion

In my opinion, the government's policy should be adjusted according to the psychology of the people
who are not willing to participate in organ donation. According to the questionnaire survey, 65.6% of
the respondents are willing to donate organs, while the remaining 34.4% are not willing to donate
organs. The main reason is that 84.4% of people only heard about organ transplantation but did not
fully understand it, and did not understand the Human Organ Donation regulations. My initial
hypothesis was that people would be more active in organ donation if they switched from unpaid to
paid donation. But the data showed that only 6.25 percent of people were willing to change their
initial intention based on the amount of the reward. Therefore, what really needs to be understood is
why people do not feel the publicity of organ donation, and some people who do not know this matter
should be effectively and clearly understood. From the perspective of the government, the best way
should be used to maximize the enthusiasm of the people. For example, for minor children, the
government can cooperate with the education departments of various provinces and regions to carry
out education activities on "common knowledge and knowledge of organ donation" for children, or
invite organ transplant specialists from local hospitals to give lectures in schools. From beginning to
end, the government implemented these policies under the principle of "not forcing people, but
encouraging participants." For adults, especially those who don't know much about organ donation.
The government can make proper use of the social platforms and video websites that young people
like to use, and add some advertisements about organ donation to these platforms. Television stations
could also pull out of some programs and invite organ donors and patients who have received organs
for interviews and interviews. We can also report more news about organ transplantation through the
media to promote the dedication spirit of organ donors. To guide the public to pay attention to the
events about organ donation in life, so as to make people want to understand or even participate in
organ donation. Although the survey shows that not many people participate in organ donation because of the subsidy awarded by the government, I think the government can still raise the amount of subsidy appropriately, not to attract some people who are in urgent need of money. Nowadays, China and even the whole world are faced with the shortage of donor organs. Measures to increase the subsidy amount can appropriately improve people's enthusiasm to participate in organ donation. Through the questionnaire survey, I found that some people are willing to participate in organ donation, but they prefer to be able to decide the recipients themselves. For example, some people hope that they can donate their organs to some valuable people who make contributions to the society. (Scientists, teachers...) On the contrary, they do not want their organs to be donated to someone who is or has been harmful to society. (Thief, criminal...) That's why they are reluctant or afraid to participate in organ transplant operations, because they don't think they have the right to designate the recipient. But in fact, according to Article 10 of the Regulations on Human Organ Transplantation (2007), donors only need to submit a written application to the provincial health administration department if they want to designate their donated living organs for transplantation to non-close relatives. Please meet their requirements. But only 1% of people in the questionnaire, understand and familiar with the regulations on the human body organ donation in our country, and the remaining 99% of people don't know these policies, so they think is likely to lead to his request, the government cannot meet, eventually leading to the number of organ donors than are smaller than the number of people willing to participate. In order to alleviate this phenomenon, the government should increase the awareness of the people about the basic regulations of organ donation.

5. Conclusion

First of all, through my research, I found that the difference between paid and unpaid donations does not have much impact on most people. What they really need to understand is the meaning of organ donation, which is the continuation of life. But many people mistake it for some illegal organs. This suggests that the government should step up efforts to crack down on such illegal organ transplant agencies, although it will still be a long battle to eliminate them completely. What the government can do now is change some of the policies of previous years. For minors, they are less exposed to some current affairs and politics than adults, so schools can be organized to carry out popular science knowledge classes or information sessions. For adults, however, I divide this group into two stages. One is for people aged between 18 and 40, and the other is for people aged over 40. For the first group, the government can promote it in popular websites or apps. For the other part of the population, we can increase the promotion efforts in the news and radio, especially to ensure that the media reports can report the positive events about organ donation. When people find these good deeds happening around them, they will also be tempted to participate. But the government also needs to ensure that the promotion does not involve coercion, which can lead to negative psychology and negative stereotypes about organ donation.

References

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