



## A STUDY TO ASSESS THE ATTITUDE ON ORGAN DONATION AMONG PARAMEDICAL WORKERS AT SRM GENERAL HOSPITAL, KATTANKULATHUR, KANCHEEPURAM DIST.

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### ABSTRACT

Organ transplantation is considered one of the greatest advances of modern science that has given many patients a renewed lease of life. The evolutions of advanced technologies in the scientific world have made organ harvesting for organ transplantation a safe and viable of people suffering with organ failure. The present study aimed to assess the attitude on organ donation and to associate the attitude on organ donation with their demographic variables targeting paramedical workers at SRM General Hospital, Kattankulathur. Kancheepuram dist. A total of 100 paramedical workers in the age group between 25-32 years of age were selected, by simple random technique and three point likert scales on attitude was used to collect the data. A cross sectional design was used. The finding showed that there was significant association found between the attitude on organ donation with their Educational Qualification and Occupation in the demographic variables.

### KEY WORDS

*Organ donation. Attitude, paramedical.*

### INTRODUCTION

A living person can donate organs, or after natural death or after declared 'brain death'. The legal aspects of the procedure have been constantly subjected to revisions so as to make the environment "pro-donation" or "donation-friendly" in the country. State government are being aided by the NGO's to establish safety systems to facilitate organ donation so as so meet the demands of the huge requirement in the country. In spite of the above the reality speaks a different language. Statistics show that Australia has 11 organ donors per million, Britain has 27, Canada has 14, Spain has 35.1 donors, USA has 26 donors per million whereas India has only 0.08 donors per million population[PMP]. Annual deaths are approximately 500,000 because of non-availability of organs of whom 200,000 people die of liver diseases, 50,000 people die from heart diseases. At least 150,000 people await a kidney transplant but only 5,000 get organs and almost 1,000,000 lakh people suffer from corneal blindness and await transplant. According to a 2009 study, India ranked second in

the world in live related kidney transplants but only 40 in the total number of transplants.

The state of TamilNadu the pride of being the role model for the country in promoting organ donation. The Central Registry for Organ Donation, formed in October 2008, has recorded more than 2000 transplants in Tamil Nadu till 2013, the highest in the country so far. It is reported that in 2011, 1.42 lakhs deaths were due to road traffic accidents in India. It is estimated that by 2020, RTA will occupy sixth position in the list of cause of death.(Asian Development Bank Report) These are the huge number of potential donors who if motivated in the right manner, can fill the big gap between the requirement of organs for transplantation of organs. (Dr.Sree.T.Suchitra)

In India, there is a great need for human organs as there is critical shortage of the same for transplantation. The shortage in organ supply is due to lack of awareness and correct knowledge among public, myths and misconceptions surrounding organ donation due to religious and cultural barriers leading hesitancy in donation of human organs. It has also identified a due to the reluctance of family

members to donate due to fear of the surgery causing loss to their health, smaller nuclear families with unmatched donors and a deceased donor programs that is still evolving. Studies identified that health care providers including medical students adequate knowledge about organ donation. Little is known about factors that influence attitudes and belief about organ donation among health professionals. According to a study by the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), people often do not have all the information they need to make decisions about donating a family member's nor do they have a clear understanding of the donation process. Health care providers play a key role in educating the public and act as a critical link to engage the community members in spreading the awareness to the public. Thus understanding the knowledge and attitudes regarding organ donation will help to identify the gaps and provide training on organ donation. In turn they will act as 'champions' of the cause in spreading the awareness and motivating the public regarding organ donation.

**Zeljko Vlaisavljevic (2014)** conducted a study among the nurses on organ legacy and transplantation, attitude and knowledge on organ donation. In this cross sectional study, 291 nurses from the clinical center of Serbia, Belgrade, filled in the questionnaire on the effect of correlation between the length of the service and level of education on knowledge and attitudes towards organ transplantation and organ donation.

**Sree. T. Sucharitha (2013)** conducted a study among undergraduate medical students, awareness, attitude and beliefs on organ donation. There was no statistically significant correlation between attitudes, beliefs and demographics. The study revealed that low levels of awareness on organ donation and gaps in the knowledge among undergraduate medical students.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted among paramedical workers working in SRM General Hospital, Kattankulathur, Kancheepuram dist. Recent study was aimed to assess the attitude on organ donation among paramedical workers. After obtaining the ethical clearance from the dissertation committee of SRM College of Nursing, SRM University, Kattankulathur, Kancheepuram District and Permission was obtained from the Director, where the study was conducted. Informed consent was obtained from the study participants, after explaining the nature and duration of the study. A total number of 100 paramedical workers who meet the inclusion criteria were selected by the simple random sampling technique. An inclusion criterion was Workers in the age group between 25-32 years. Workers who are willing to participate in the study. Workers who are in the paramedical line. The tool was prepared with an extensive review of literature, discussion with professional experts and with the investigator's personal experience, structured questionnaire was used. The tool consists of two parts Section A, Structured questionnaire on demographic variables such as age, gender, educational qualification, occupation, marital status, family type, experience Part, Section B Three point likert scale on attitude among paramedical workers on organ donation Attitude was assessed by three point likert scale. The researcher maintained good interpersonal relationship with the paramedical workers throughout the study and there was adequate co-operation from the workers. The investigator spent nearly 15 mins for each participant. The data collected from the subjects were compiled and analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistical methods.

**Table1: Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables of paramedical workers in SRM General Hospital; N = 100**

S. No.	Demographic Variable	Classification	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	Age	18 - 24 years	13	13%
		25 - 32 years	87	87%
2	Gender	Male	27	27%
		Female	73	73%
		B. Sc., Nursing	40	40%
3	Educational Qualification	Diploma in Nursing	30	30%
		BOT	2	2%
		MOT	2	2%
		BPT	3	3%

		MPT	4	4%
		Others	19	19%
		Nursing	70	70%
4	Occupation	Occupational Therapist	4	4%
		Physiotherapist	7	7%
		Others	19	19%
5	Marital Status	Married	36	36%
		Unmarried	64	64%
6	Family Type	Nuclear Family	56	56%
		Joint Family	33	33%
		Extended Family	11	11%
7	Experience	1 - 2 years	31	31%
		3 - 6 years	69	69%

The above table shows that age group of 18-24 years and the percentage (13%) and in the age group of 25-32 (87%) . gender, most of them are females (73%) and males were (27%). Considering the educational qualification in the study, 40% in B.Sc. Nursing, 30% in Diploma in Nursing, 2% in BOT, 2% in MOT, 3% in BPT, 4% in MPT, and 19% of other paramedical workers. Regarding the occupation in the study the Nursing (70%), Occupational therapist

(4%), Physiotherapist (7%), others are (19%). Regarding the occupation Nursing (70%), Occupational therapist( 4%), Physiotherapist (7%), Others are (19%). the years of experience between 1-2 years the percentage is (31%), 3-6years (69%) years. married life reveals that Married were (36%), Unmarried are (64%).types of family nuclear family (56%), Joint family (33%), Extended family (11%).

**Table 2: Association of attitude on organ donation among paramedical workers. N = 100**

S. No.	Demographic Variable	Classification	Attitude on Organ donation		Chi-Square value	Degrees of Freedom	p value
			Favorable	Moderately Favorable			
1	Age	18 - 24 years	9	4	1.083	1	0.298
		25 - 32 years	71	16			
2	Gender	Male	22	5	0.051	1	0.822
		Female	58	15			
3	Educational Qualification	B. Sc., Nursing	34	6	22.303	6	0.001**
		Diploma in Nursing	27	3			
		BOT	2	0			
		MOT	2	0			
		BPT	3	0			
		MPT	4	0			
		Others	8	11			
4	Occupation	Nursing	61	9	22.035	3	0.000**
		Occupational Therapist	4	0			
		Physiotherapist	7	0			
		Others	8	11			
5	Marital Status	Married	26	10	2.127	1	0.145
		Unmarried	54	10			
6	Family Type	Nuclear Family	46	10	5.100	2	0.078
		Joint Family	23	10			
		Extended Family	11	0			
7	Experience	1 - 2 years	22	9	2.291	1	0.130
		3 - 6 years	58	11			

Note: \*\* significant at 1% level

The above table reveals that, there was significant association found between the attitude on organ donation with their Educational Qualification and Occupation in the demographic variables.

## DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study was done to assess the attitude on organ donation among paramedical workers in SRM General Hospital, Kattankulathur, Kancheepuram dist. The research design was cross sectional study design. It was decided to do the study on 100 samples using simple random method. The first objective was to assess the attitude on organ donation among paramedical workers. In this study the result revealed that Favorable attitude 70%, moderately favorable attitude 30%. The finding was supported by the following studies Prasanna Mithra, Prithvishree Ravindra and K. Divyavara prasad, (2014) the study was conducted to assess the perception and attitude towards organ donation among people seeking healthcare in tertiary care centers at Mangalore, India. The study conclusion that the healthcare workers on organ donation based on the criteria that was used by researchers to assess perception and attitude. Overall 59.6% participants showed their willingness to donate organs. Forty percent participants had perceived risks associated with organ donation. Regarding donor cards, 42.3% of the participants knew about it and 3.7% already possessed it.

The second objective was to associate on organ donation with their demographic Variables the result revealed that there was significant association between the demographic characteristics "Educational Qualification and Occupation". The finding was supported by the following studies Donmez (2009), the study was conducted to assess the attitude of the society about transplantation and their interventions. The study concluded that the public education is needed to modify attitudes about organ transplantation. In addition, regulations for donor card organizations are needed in order to transform the positive attitudes of those who would like to donate their organs into practice.

## CONCLUSION

Educating health care professionals about the organ donation process appears to be an important factor in maximizing the benefits from the limited organ donor pool. This can be accomplished through the continuous mass media campaign in the form of short films, celebrity endorsement, and panel discussion utilizing experts in that field and inculcating in their curriculum regarding its importance.

## RECOMMENDATION

- A study can be conducted to assess the knowledge on organ donation among paramedical workers
- A similar study can be conducted to assess the attitude on organ donation
- A cross sectional study can be done on assessing the effectiveness on organ donation reducing the death rates.
- The same study can be done with large sample size so that the results can be generalized.
- The same study can be done on different settings.

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