

# INDIAN TRANSPLANT

## NEWSLETTER

A quarterly publication from

MOHAN FOUNDATION

MULTI ORGAN HARVESTING AID NETWORK

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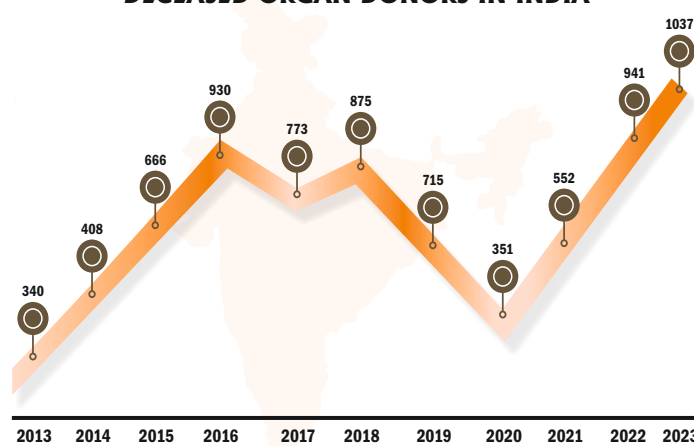
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### Deceased Organ Donations in 2023 - India Reaches a New Milestone

India has witnessed a significant increase in deceased organ donations post-COVID, surpassing a milestone by transitioning from 3 digits to 4 digits for the first time, having had a total of 1,037 deceased donors in 2023. The southern and western states continue to be major contributors, as in previous years. Notably, several new states have started participating, with Manipur being the latest addition. Overall, 2,904 patients have benefited from deceased donor transplants, achieving an organ utilization rate of 2.8 organs per donor. In 2023, there were 96 more donations compared to 2022, which had 941 donors, although the organ utilization was slightly higher in 2022 at 2.86 per donor.

In 2023, India conducted a total of 12,526 kidney transplants, comprised of 10,896 from living donors and 1,630 from deceased donors. Additionally, there were 4,173 liver transplants, including 3,338 from living

**DECEASED ORGAN DONORS IN INDIA**

Source : Union Health Ministry - NOTTO

donors, 828 from deceased donors, and 7 from domino transplants. Notably, 15% of kidney transplants and 20% of liver transplants involved organs from deceased donors.

### Transplants in India - 2022 vs 2023 (Living + Deceased + Domino)

Organs	2022	2023
Kidney	11705 (10164+1541+0)	12526 (10896+1630+0)
Liver	3920 (3174+737+9)	4173 (3338+828+7)
Heart	243	221
Lung	144	191
Pancreas	26	21
Small Bowel	3	14
<b>Total Transplants</b>	<b>16041</b>	<b>17146</b>

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## XVIVO's Heart Technology Made the First-Ever Transplantation with a Donor Heart Transported Across the Atlantic Possible

According to The Lancet, a historic milestone was achieved with the transportation of a donor heart across the Atlantic Ocean for the first time. The donor, a 48-year-old man from the French West Indies, was declared brain dead three days after suffering an intracerebral hemorrhage. In this unprecedented attempt, the donated heart was transported across the Atlantic, covering a distance of 6750 km from the French West Indies to Paris, inside the cabin of a commercial airline flight. The transplant procedure took place at the Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital, Sorbonne University, in Paris in January 2024.

The Lancet highlighted this trial as notable case for three significant factors. Firstly, it involved the unprecedented transportation of a donor heart over a distance of 6750 kilometers. Secondly, the heart was preserved for an extended period of 12 hours and 06 minutes. Thirdly, the transportation was facilitated via commercial air transport, unlike the conventional donor heart transport practices.

## Lawn Bowls Transplant Open Championship held in Thailand

The second Lawn Bowls Transplant Open Championship hosted by Thailand Transplant Sports affiliated with the World Transplant Games Federation, provided a platform for athletes who have undergone organ transplants to compete and celebrate the spirit of life and sport. The event, spanning from January 26 to 28, 2024, witnessed the participation of a contingent of four players from India, bringing home trophies in different age groups and categories.

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I, Sunil Shroff, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sd/-

Sunil Shroff

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Signature of Publisher

## First Successful Genetically-Modified Pig-to-Human Kidney Transplant Performed in the U.S.

In March 2024, Richard Slayman, a 62-year-old man, made medical history by undergoing the world's first genetically modified pig-to-human kidney transplant at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). Through this groundbreaking procedure, Slayman shared hope not only for his personal journey but also for the countless others awaiting life-saving transplants.

Mr. Slayman, who had long-term Type 2 diabetes and hypertension, underwent dialysis for seven years before receiving a kidney transplant from a deceased donor in December 2018 at MGH. After the transplanted kidney began to fail, Slayman started dialysis again in May 2023. He experienced repeated dialysis vascular access issues after starting dialysis, which necessitated repeated hospital trips and greatly affected his quality of life.

Dr. Tatsuo Kawai, Director of the Legorreta Center for Clinical Transplant Tolerance at MGH, led the groundbreaking transplant procedure. The kidney used in the transplant was sourced from a genetically engineered pig, which had three genes associated with potential organ rejection removed. Furthermore, seven human genes were introduced to enhance compatibility with the recipient. Additionally, precautions were taken to deactivate retroviruses carried by pigs that could potentially infect humans. Remarkably, just two weeks after the procedure, Mr. Slayman's recovery progress was significant enough for him to be discharged from the hospital.

In September 2021, medical professionals at NYU Langone Health in New York conducted a kidney transplant from a genetically modified pig into a brain-dead individual in whom the transplanted kidney showed normal functioning for an unprecedented duration of thirty-two days. Shortly after, researchers from the University of Alabama in Birmingham reported achieving similar results through a comparable process. The surgical team at the University of Maryland attempted twice to perform heart transplants using genetically engineered pig hearts.

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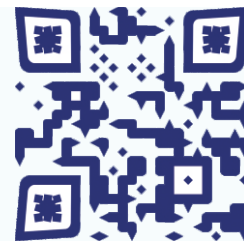
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## First Skin Donation at Vardhman Mahavir Medical College and Safdarjung Hospital (VMMC & SJH), New Delhi



**Smt Uma Tomar**  
Donated skin and corneas

On January 20, 2024, the Vardhman Mahavir Medical College and Safdarjung Hospital (VMMC & SJH) witnessed its first skin donation when Ms. Deepa, a resident of Agra, Uttar Pradesh, whose mother tragically passed away following a fall at home, expressed her family's desire to donate her mother's organs.

The family, upon contacting the MOHAN Foundation's 24x7 helpline, was encouraged to consider tissue donation as multi organ donation was not an option. With coordination between the Transplant Coordinator at Safdarjung Hospital and MOHAN Foundation's counsellors, the successful retrieval of the corneas and skin was facilitated, marking a landmark donation at the newly inaugurated skin bank at the Hospital.

In a groundbreaking initiative aimed at transforming burn care and trauma treatment, Safdarjung Hospital inaugurated its Skin Bank, marking a significant milestone as the second such facility in the city and one of only four such facilities in North India, emphasizing the rarity and importance of such specialized medical resources in the region. Opened in June 2023, the Skin Bank aims to play a pivotal role in addressing the critical needs of burn victims and patients with extensive trauma, providing a lifeline through the deceased donation skin.

As part of the hospital's commitment to comprehensive care, all burn patients in the region will be referred to Safdarjung Hospital, ensuring they have access to the specialized services provided by the newly established skin bank. The skin bank was established under the Department of Burns and Plastic Surgery, headed by Dr Sujata Sarabhai and Dr Deepak Nanda as the Nodal Officer for the same. The initiative aims to inspire individuals to contribute to this life-changing cause of skin donation.

Reach out to the skin bank at  
Vardhman Mahavir Medical College and  
Safdarjung Hospital (VMMC & SJH), New Delhi

**01126165989 or 9871260349**

**To cite :** Suriyamoorthi S, Kumar P, Shroff S. In the news. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p2-3.

## Delhi's First Hand Transplant at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital - Vision to Reality

The department of plastic surgery at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital (SGRH) performed Delhi's first Hand transplant in the month of January 2024.

"The vision of hand transplant was seen in pre-COVID era and we got clearance from Delhi govt. in February 2023. Since then, we had multiple recipients but there was no hand donation. In January 2024, we had the first hand donation from north India in our own hospital and the vision of hand transplant was converted into reality." - Dr Mahesh Mangal, Chairman, HOD and Sr. Consultant, Plastic & Cosmetic Surgery at SGRH.

In an unforeseen twist of fate, Mr. Raj Kumar, a 45-year-old resident of Nangloi, a painted by trade, found himself at a critical juncture between despair and hope following a tragic train accident, in October 2020, that cost him both his upper limbs. Belonging to the economically disadvantaged strata of society, Raj Kumar became reliant on others for his everyday tasks. Initially opting for prosthetics, his attempts proved futile, leaving him with only one glimmer of hope: a hand transplant. However, at the time, no medical center in North India possessed the authorization to perform such a procedure.

In the third week of January 2024, a beacon of optimism emerged for Raj Kumar with a call from the hospital regarding a forthcoming hand donation. The family members of Mrs Meena Mehta, a retired Vice Principal of New Greenfield School in Kalkaji, New Delhi, generously expressed their wish to donate her organs upon her passing. For Raj Kumar, this operation signified more than just the physical restoration of his limbs; it heralded a new chapter of possibilities, resilience and a future filled with renewed hope.

"I would like to emphasize on more awareness about hand donation as it significantly changes the quality of life particularly of a bilateral upper limb amputee. Every deceased donor is a potential hand donor." said **Dr Mahesh Mangal, Sir Gangaram Hospital.**



## NTORCs' (Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centre) Contribution in Vadodara, Gujarat



Interview with

**Dr Deepali Tewari**Additional Chief Medical Superintendent  
& Senior Ophthalmologist  
Vadodara Division at Western Railways

For more than 27 years, Dr Deepali Tewari has been dedicated to the railways, currently holding the position of Additional Chief Medical Superintendent of the Vadodara Division at Western Railways. During her career, she has had the opportunity to participate in corneal donation initiatives as an ophthalmologist within the railway system.

**How did you come to be involved in organ donation?**

My husband was diagnosed with kidney failure in 2017 and going through his journey with kidney failure was one of the toughest periods of my life. It felt like every day brought new challenges and uncertainties. Our whole life came to a standstill. We literally lived from one dialysis to the next. But, when the kidney transplant finally happened, it was like a ray of hope shining through the darkness. It not only changed my husband's life but ours as a family.

In the midst of it all, I couldn't help but feel like there was a greater purpose behind our struggles. It's as if the universe put me in this situation so that I could find my calling in advocating for organ donation. Witnessing firsthand the transformative power of organ transplantation made me realize the importance of giving back.

**You have been instrumental in engaging and enabling NTORCs (Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centres) in the deceased donation program. Could you please share your experience with NTORCs in Vadodara?**

When I embarked on my journey in this field back in 2017, I undertook the task of mapping out the hospitals in Vadodara. To my amusement, there were a total of 107 ICUs scattered throughout the city. Determined to spread awareness about organ donation, I dedicated my evenings to personally visiting these ICUs, urging them to participate in this noble cause. My aim was to inspire them to recognize the life-saving potential of organ donation.

In addition to my individual efforts, I sought assistance from the Intensive Care Society of Vadodara. With their support, I was able to rally the enthusiasm of around 8-10 intensivists who volunteered to contribute to the program.

As a result of these collaborative endeavors, 19 hospitals have now registered themselves as NTORCs, with 12 of them successfully facilitating deceased organ donations within their premises.

**Some of the NTORCs are in the government sector, while others are private hospitals – what has your experience been in each sector? Are the challenges the same or do they differ?**

Indeed, the challenges faced by private and government NTORCs are quite distinct.



Interviewed by

**Ms Pallavi Kumar**Executive Director (NCR)  
MOHAN Foundation

Corporate NTORCs tend to be more cooperative due to the presence of dedicated intensivists and administrative support, making the process relatively smoother. Once acquainted with the initial steps, they often require less guidance for subsequent donations. However, as these centres are not trauma centres, organ donations occur infrequently.

In smaller NTORCs from government sector, donor maintenance is often managed by non-intensivists, as they may lack full-time intensivists. This responsibility often falls on a physician, which can occasionally compromise the maintenance process. In addition, there's often pressure to expedite donation coordination, ideally within a 48-hour window in order to avoid the donor crashing.

**Your recommendations to streamline the processes for NTORCS to enable more donations.**

I strongly advocate establishing a national policy for incentivizing NTORCs to encourage greater participation in the donation process. While appealing to their goodwill is crucial for motivation, it alone may not be sufficient to sustain their involvement.

Although the government's reimbursement of maintenance costs is appreciated, it may not hold significant importance for NTORCs. Therefore, there is a need for state recognition and honour to further motivate their engagement.

On a practical level, I believe that providing additional compensation to staff involved in donor maintenance and coordination within these NTORCs for each donation can help sustain their interest and motivation. Furthermore, offering sponsorship for training programs for residents engaged in deceased donations could serve as an additional motivating factor.

There is no doubt a need for an increased awareness in medical colleges along with an increased level of supervision to ensure accountability for critical care in these ICUs.

**What opportunities do you see for NTORCs in the time to come?**

I personally believe that the personnel in NTORCs dedicating their time and efforts to facilitate donations are genuinely altruistic individuals. They engage in this process purely out of goodness, without any personal benefit, showcasing true altruism. And, this act has to be recognised and honoured.

**To cite :** Tewari D, Kumar P. NTORCs' (Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centre) Contribution in Vadodara, Gujarat. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p4.





## First Deceased Organ Donation in Jhalawar, Rajasthan



**Dr Ram Sevak Yogi**

Head, Dept. of Neurosurgery  
Jhalawar Medical College

The first deceased organ donation at Jhalawar Medical College (JMC), achieved against numerous challenges, stands as a remarkable achievement. Jhalawar, a lesser-known district in Rajasthan, witnessed an extraordinary endeavour by a committed team who dared to achieve what many larger hospitals in metropolitan areas struggle with:

successfully orchestrating a multi-organ donation. What makes it extra special is that JMC is not a transplant centre. Spearheaded by the

determined Dr Ram Sevak Yogi and wholeheartedly supported by everyone in the hospital, this achievement is truly commendable.

Bhuriya, aged 39, was admitted to JMC following a fall from a tree on February 20, 2024. Despite the dedicated efforts, it became evident that Bhuriya had progressed towards brain death. Dr Yogi, who had recently joined JMC in June 2023 had earlier completed his residency at SMS Medical College, Jaipur under the guidance of Dr V D Sinha, (Head, Dept. of Neurosurgery) and had gained invaluable experience during his tenure. This included actively participating in numerous brain death declarations and subsequent organ donations.

Dr Yogi counselled Bhuriya's family and after addressing various concerns, successfully inspired them to consider organ donation. However, the real challenge arose thereafter. JMC was not registered as an NTORC, and he encountered resistance when attempting to declare Bhuriya brain dead and proceed with organ retrieval. Despite an earlier application for NTORC registration and subsequent responses to queries, the institute had not received any further communication.

**To cite :** Yogi R S, Kumar P. First Deceased Organ Donation in Jhalawar, Rajasthan. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p5.

Dr Yogi tirelessly made numerous calls to various individuals, including Dr Rashmi Gupta (Deputy Director, Directorate Medical Education) and Ms Bhavna Jagwani (Convenor, MFJCF), in an effort to resolve the situation. Eventually, his efforts caught the attention of Smt. Shubhra Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, Medical Health & Family Welfare Department. Subsequently, Dr Yogi received a call from Dr Manish Sharma (Consultant Institutional Education Communication (IEC)/ media), who assured him that the registration would be expedited, with a promise of completion by next day morning.

In the meantime, the medical team faced the challenge of optimizing the potential donor, encountering difficulties along the way. As his sodium levels continued to rise, Dr Yogi sought advice from Dr Deepak Gupta (HOD Neurosurgery, AIIMS Delhi), who recommended administering vasopressors. However, vasopressors were not readily available in Jhalawar.

Undeterred, Dr Yogi reached out to his contacts in Kota and arranged for a medical store to be opened in the middle of the night, ensuring that the necessary medication could be procured and administered promptly. Despite all the hurdles, brain death was declared and a team from SMS Medical College, Jaipur retrieved both the kidneys, a liver and two corneas transforming 5 lives from this heroic act by the donor family and team of JMC.



JMC team paying respect to the donor

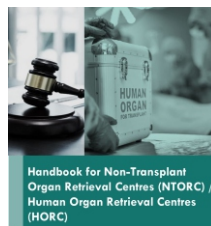
"While there were multiple challenges involved in coordinating the first donation at JMC, what made it happen was the tremendous cooperation received from the Dean, Dr P Jawar and every single member of the team." said **Dr Ram Sevak Yogi**.

## Handbook for Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centres (NTORC)

On March 23, 2024, MOHAN Foundation released the 'Handbook for Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centres (NTORC)/Human Organ Retrieval Centres (HORC)'. The handbook was released by Shri Sanjay Prakash, Managing Director, SBI Foundation at the inaugural ceremony of "Celebrating Diversity" - A Commonwealth Tribute to Life Conference.

Organ donation from brain dead deceased donors from non-transplant hospitals is less common in our country. The provision for NTORCs expands the scope of organ donation to smaller hospitals in cities and in smaller towns. These hospitals may not have transplant surgeons and other facilities to do transplant surgery, yet may have the required infrastructure and motivated medical professionals for identification, certification and maintenance of a brain-dead donor, along with removal and storage of organs / tissues to qualify as NTORC.

The resource manual delineates simplified and comprehensive procedures for hospital registration as an NTORC, along with guidelines for brain death identification, testing, certification, and grief counselling. This manual aims to provide hospitals with a clear understanding of the intricate processes involved, empowering them to consider registration as NTORC.



Compiled by MOHAN FOUNDATION



**To cite :** Kumar P. Handbook for Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centres (NTORC). Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p5.



## Building Trust: Living Donors & Donor Families – An Advocacy Workshop

On March 2, 2024, an Advocacy Workshop titled 'Building Trust' was organized by MOHAN Foundation in Mumbai, in partnership with ROTTO-SOTTO Mumbai. The program focused on the goodness of living donors and the donor families who put themselves and their grief aside, to give consent to donating their own / their loved ones' organs, altruistically. Hence the need to constantly look at trust enhancing and therefore various stakeholders were brought together at this forum.

**Deceased organ donation** - Reviewing current practices in Medico Legal Cases (MLC) and issuing revised guidelines by Public Health Department, for smoothening the process to ensure timely handing over donor's body to their bereaved families who, in spite of their grief, take the difficult decision of donating their loved one's organs, thus saving a few other lives.

The panel did a deep dive on Maharashtra's current practices, and it came out that the Maharashtra Police were quite unnecessarily being forced to issue a 'No Objection Letter' thereby giving their approval to retrieval of organs, when in fact the Forensics are the competent authorities to give their approval to retrieval of organs. It was concluded that the panel will take up the responsibility of

proposing changes to the Public Health Department and to the Police Department to enact revised guidelines. This would ensure faster handing over of the donor's body to the families, thereby not causing them any further pain and anxiety associated with delays.

**Living organ donation** - The session aimed to discuss the need for mandating the appointment of an 'Independent Living Donor Advocate' by the State Governments and Hospitals, thereby providing donor care by someone not involved in recipient care, thus safeguarding the donor and ensuring they are given the opportunity to make informed decisions, without any pressure or coercion in the truest sense.

An introduction to the concept of an 'Independent Living Donor Advocate' was given by Dr Sunil Shroff, Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation. This was followed by the sharing of practices followed in the UK and US - Ms Jen Lumsdaine (Living Donation, Scotland) and Ms Dawn Larson and Ms Paige Anderson (Independent Living Donor Advocates) in M Health Fairview Hospital, Minnesota.

**To cite :** Jairam J. Building Trust: Living Donors & Donor Families – An Advocacy Workshop. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p6.



Mr Samiir Halady (Kidney recipient), Ms Sudha Bhamidipati (Caregiver to Liver recipient) and Dr Ravi Mohanka (HPB & Liver Transplant Surgeon, Sir H.N. Reliance Hospital), Mumbai



Deceased donation in MLC cases (L-R) - Dr Pravin Shingare, Former Director DMER, Dr Rajesh Dere, HOD Forensics, Sion Hospital, Mumbai, Mr Anil Paraskar, Addl. Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, Dr Yogender Bansal, HOD Forensics, PGIMER Chandigarh



Panel discussion (L-R) - Ms Sujata Ashtekar (ROTTA SOTTO, Mumbai), Dr Sujata Patwardhan (ROTTA SOTTO Mumbai), Dr Rekha Barot, Senior Transplant Coordinator, Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital, Mumbai



Dr Yogender Bansal, HOD Forensics, PGIMER Chandigarh speaking on 'MLC and organ donation - Legal framework in THO Act and its Rules'



'Independent Living Donor Advocate' - An introduction by Dr Sunil Shroff, Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation



Participants attending the Advocacy Workshop



## Navigating Change - Advanced Transplant Coordinators' Workshop

MOHAN Foundation in partnership with NATCO (Network and Alliance of Transplant Coordinators) organized an Advanced Transplant Coordinators' Workshop titled "Navigating Change" bringing together senior transplant coordinators and NGO representatives to address critical issues in the field. Supported by SBI Foundation, the event addressed insightful discussions and networking opportunities.

The theme of navigating change resonated deeply in our current landscape, where rapid advancements in medical science, evolving ethical considerations, and the ever-changing dynamics of healthcare systems present both opportunities and challenges. The workshop served as a platform to navigate these changes collaboratively, leveraging collective expertise and experiences to drive meaningful progress.

**Ethical Case Discussions :** Dr Sanjay Nagral (Senior Consultant & Director, Dept. of Surgical Gastroenterology, Jaslok Hospital & Research Centre, Mumbai) emphasized the distinction between law and ethics, highlighting the trust placed in the idea of deceased organ donation for public good and allocation systems. He also pointed out the challenges, particularly concerning the dominance of larger transplant centers and the private sector. Dr Nagral applied case studies to illustrate ethical issues that can arise in organ donation and transplantation to spark engaging discussions.

**Paediatric Transplantation-Challenges and the Way Forward:** Dr. Sonal Ashana (Clinical Lead HPB & Multi-Organ Transplant Surgery, Aster Group of Hospitals, Bengaluru) provided an overview, stating that 10% of liver transplants are performed on children, with a 75% survival rate at 20 years.

Dr. Vikram Kumar (Max Hospital, Delhi) discussed how to effectively counsel parents of paediatric transplant recipients, emphasizing the importance of building rapport, communicating in the local language, and ensuring the parents' understanding and comfort with the treatment process.

Ms Shweta (Transplant Coordinator, Aster CMI Bengaluru) highlighted the importance of improving the health of malnourished children with liver failure before transplantation, noting challenges in motivating families, particularly for infants under one year.

**Living Donation (other than near relatives) :** Dr Anil Agarwal, Director, Professor, & Head, Department of Gastrointestinal Surgery & Liver Transplant, GB Pant Hospital, New Delhi, discussed the role of the Competent Authority, the Authorisation Committee, in ensuring compliance with laws and regulations.

A panel discussion, featuring Mr Sanjay Jain (Senior Advocate & Former Additional Solicitor General of India), Dr. Amit Joshi (Deputy Medical Superintendent, Bombay Hospital, Indore), Dr Arun Kumar Agarwal (Dean and Director Professor, ENT Maulana Azad Medical College) and Ms Latha Kumaraswamy

(Managing Trustee, TANKER Foundation) delved into various aspects of living donation, including spousal consent, defining altruism, and identifying fake or "well-trained" donors.

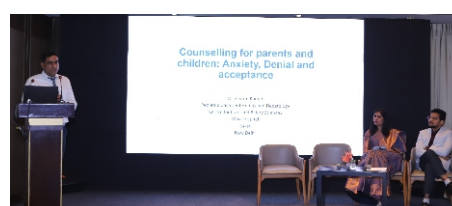
**Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centers (NTORC) :** The session focused on expanding the donor pool through NTORCs. Ms Lalitha Raghuram (Country Director, MOHAN Foundation) presented a status report, highlighting the progress in Karnataka and across India. Dr Deepali Tewari (Additional Chief Medical Superintendent & Senior Ophthalmologist, Vadodara Division at Western Railways) shared her experience in coordinating donations from NTORCs in Vadodara. Dr Noble Gracious (Executive Director, Kerala State Organ & Tissue Transplant Organization & Associate Professor, Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram) discussed strategies to motivate hospitals to become NTORCs. Ms Lijamol Joseph (Executive Committee Member South, NATCO) emphasized the importance of careful planning for integrating multiple hospitals as NTORCs. D. Georgi Abraham, MGM Healthcare, Chennai discussed the potential of registering all district and taluk hospitals as NTORCs, while Dr Avnish Seth, Head, Manipal Organ Sharing & Transplant (MOST), Delhi, highlighted the pivotal role of committed doctors in driving the declaration of brain death and subsequent donation procedures, even within a chain of hospitals.



Dr Sanjay Nagral facilitating discussions on 'Organ donation and ethics - Case studies'



Ms Pallavi Kumar, Executive Director, MF NCR, welcoming participants to the conference



Dr Vikram Kumar speaking on Counselling the parents and children in transplant program



Case sharing and discussion on living donation (from L to R) - Dr Anil Agarwal, Dr Amit Joshi, Dr Arun Agarwal, Ms Latha Kumaraswamy, Mr Sanjay Jain & Ms Arati Gokhle

**To cite :** Kumar P. Navigating Change - Advanced Transplant Coordinators' Workshop. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p7.

## Commonwealth Tribute to Life (CTtL) Conference "Celebrating Diversity" held in Gurugram, India

A three-day International Conference, "Celebrating Diversity" was organized by MOHAN Foundation and Commonwealth Tribute to Life (CTtL) at Courtyard by Marriott, Gurugram, India, from March 22-24, 2024. The aim of the conference was to share knowledge on organ donation and transplantation to help initiate and improve donation rates in Commonwealth countries. The conference received support from the SBI Foundation.

With close to 150 participants from 10 countries, including the UK, Canada, Singapore, Australia, South Africa, Bangladesh, Nepal, Malaysia, UAE, and Zambia, along with a significant representation from India, the conference truly served as a beacon of knowledge exchange. It provided a platform for experts, practitioners, policymakers, and advocates to share insights, research findings, and strategies to address challenges and seize opportunities in the field of organ donation and transplantation among Commonwealth nations.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by:

Shri Sanjay Prakash, Managing Director, SBI Foundation  
Dr Anil Kumar, Director National Organ and Tissue Organization  
Dr RV Asokan, National President, Indian Medical Association  
Shri Sunil Arora, Retd Chief Election Commissioner of India  
Dr Satya Sharma, Chairperson, Commonwealth Tribute to Life  
Dr Dale Gardiner, Regional Coordinator, Europe, CTtL  
Dr Avnish Seth, Organizing Chairman, CTtL Conference  
Mr C. P. Gurnani, Ex-CEO, Tech Mahindra, CEO Club Mahindra

The conference featured a mixture of panel discussions, plenary talks, role-plays, and workshops, providing ample opportunities for networking and information exchange.



*Inauguration of the workshop*

Sessions in the conference covered topics such as:

- Sharing of best practices
- Supporting emerging programs to start deceased donation
- Showcasing community engagement
- Approaches to normalize DCD
- Roles in counselling for donation
- Brain Death Project and Challenges
- Setting up audit systems for transplant outcomes
- Pioneering hand transplantation in India
- Skin banking systems
- Creating organ transport systems using drones
- Using cell-free DNA for early detection of organ rejection
- Crowd-funding to support transplant costs

Additionally, there were three workshops to discuss:

- Best practices in transplantation from across the commonwealth
- Education, training and accreditation
- Opportunities for communication and promotion within the commonwealth



This conference was organized in association with National Organ and Tissue Organization (NOTTO), Indian Society of Organ Transplantation (ISOT), Society for Heart Failure and Transplantation, Liver Transplant Society of India (LTSI), International Federation of Kidney Foundations - World Kidney Alliance (IFKF-WKA), and NATCO. The conference also received support from Trunome, TANKER Foundation, Mankind, Intas, Lal Path Labs, Sanofi and Sandor.







**Dr Dale Gardiner**, Consultant Adult Intensive Care Medicine, Nottingham University Hospitals, NHS Trust & Associate Medical Director - Deceased Organ Donation, NHS Blood & Transplant



Diversity and Donation in UAE - Opportunity & Alliances - **Dr Ali Al Obaidli**, Chairman, UAE National Transplant Committee

## Augmenting Kidney Transplants - Lessons Learnt



**Dr Vijayan Manogran**, Consultant - Urologist and Renal Transplant Surgeon, Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



**Dr Harun Ur-rashid**, Senior Prof. Nephrology, Kidney Foundation Hospital & Research Institute, Bangladesh



**Dr Job Kasweshi**, Kidney Transplant Coordinator, Ministry of Health, Zambia felicitated by **Ms Jaya Jairam**, Project Director, MOHAN Foundation



## Commonwealth Tribute to Life - Setting up for success

(L-R) **Dr Satya Sharma** (Chairman, Commonwealth Tribute to Life)  
**Prof Gurch Randhawa** (Professor of Diversity in Public Health, Director Institute for Health Research, University of Bedfordshire)  
**Sterling Lynch** (Strategic Lead, Planning, Performance & Integration Canadian Blood Services, Canada)  
**Dr Sunil Shroff** (Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation)  
**Lucinda Barry** (CEO, Australian Organ & Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority)  
**Dr David Thomson** (Consultant Surgeon, Transplant Unit & Critical Care Sub-specialist, University of Cape Town, South Africa)

## Showcasing community engagement across the Commonwealth



**Australia - Brianna Elms**  
 National Manager, Communication & Engagement, Australian Organ & Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority



**Malaysia - Dr Zaimi Wahab**  
 Transplant Nephrologist, Hospital Kuala Lumpur



**India - Dr Hemal Kanvinde**  
 Quality & Assurance Officer  
 MOHAN Foundation

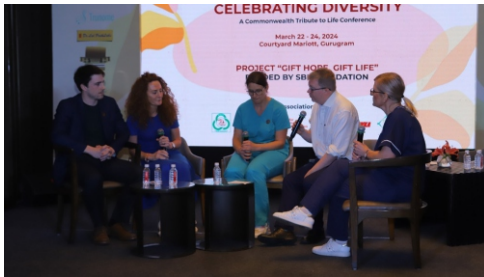


**UK - Prof. Gurch Randhawa**  
 Professor of Diversity in Public Health, Director Institute for Health Research, University of Bedfordshire



# Commonwealth Tribute to Life

## International approaches: Roleplay of a family approach presented from different Commonwealth Countries



UK



Singapore



India



Consent for Donation - A 'No' is not always a 'No' - **Ms Pallavi Kumar** (Executive Director - MOHAN Foundation, President - NATCO)



**Dr Shubnum Singh**, Principal Advisor Healthcare, CII, Advisor & Governing Board Member, Health Sector Skill Council felicitated by **Dr Satya Sharma**, Chairman, Commonwealth Tribute to Life (L) and **Dr Sunil Shroff**, Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation (R)



Predicting tools in organ transplantation - **Prof Nithya Krishnan** (Consultant Transplant Nephrologist, Transplant Medical Lead & Professor Center of Health, Community Care, Coventry University), **Dr B Subbarao** (Consultant Nephrologist, Apollo Hospitals, Chennai) & **Dr Sunil Shroff** (Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation)



**DCD mobile app launch** (L-R) **Dr Sunil Shroff** (Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation), **Dr Satya Sharma** (Chairman, Commonwealth Tribute to Life) & **Dr Anil Kumar** (Director, NOTTO)



**Release of Indian Transplant Newsletter (ITN) - Volume 22 Issue 3**



**Prof. Harun Ur Rashid**  
Senior Professor of Nephrology  
Kidney Foundation Hospital  
and Research Institute,  
Dhaka, Bangladesh  
Founder & President, Kidney  
Foundation, Bangladesh

It was a wonderful meeting that was organized. The conference was thoroughly enjoyed, with participants finding the day full of joy, learning, and great hospitality. They expressed a desire to prolong their stay, indicating the high level of engagement throughout. The collaboration between the MOHAN Foundation team and Dr Sunil Shroff (Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation) was particularly noteworthy, reflecting years of remarkable partnership. The impact of the deceased organ donation and transplant or (discussed topic) transcends borders, making a significant contribution worldwide. The gesture of sharing photos was appreciated, as they will serve as cherished memories in the future.

**To cite :** Kumar P, Raghuram L, Kanvinde H, Jairam J, Shroff S, Suriyamoorthi S. Commonwealth Tribute to Life (CTL) Conference "Celebrating Diversity" held in Gurugram, India. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p8-10.



**Fatim Keshvani**  
Head of Organ Donation Marketing  
NHS Blood & Transplant

The conference was fantastic, educational, inspiring, and impeccably organized. The hospitality extended was commendable, with each team member being warm and welcoming. It sparked numerous ideas, now needing only to find the time to share them.



**Azim Gangji**  
Associate Professor in the  
Department of Nephrology  
McMaster University  
Canada

Thank you for your exceptional hospitality and for orchestrating such a remarkable event. The attendees were highly engaged, and the atmosphere was vibrant. The conference was a delight, offering valuable networking opportunities. It was a pleasure collaborating with such a remarkable group of individuals. Anticipating the next conference eagerly.



**Cmdr V. M. Swamy**  
President  
Bengal Organ Donation  
Society

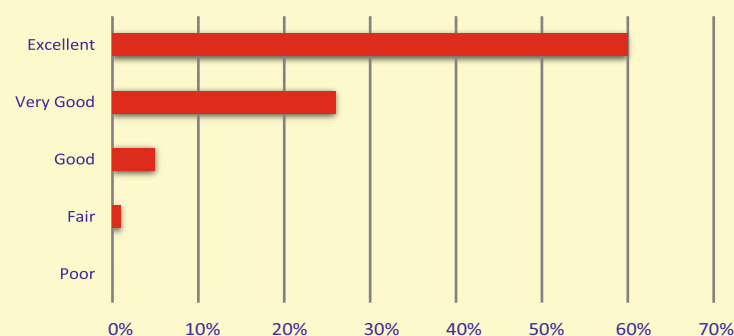
It was indeed a wonderful event, flawlessly crafted and executed by the organizing team. Thank you immensely for granting us the opportunity to engage with some of the most passionate experts in the field of organ donation. Our heartfelt gratitude and best wishes go out to Commonwealth Tribute to Life, MOHAN Foundation, and NATCO for their invaluable contributions and support throughout the event.



## Six-Week Online Transplant Coordination Professional Certificate Course

Between January and March 2024, a total of 93 candidates, including one participant from Saudi Arabia, successfully completed the six-week online course titled 'Transplant Coordination Professional Certificate' conducted by MOHAN Foundation. The course curriculum was extensive, covering medical, legal, coordination, and counseling aspects through online modules and high-quality faculty lectures. Candidates engaged in periodic self-assessment and assignments facilitated by the platform. In addition, weekly webinars were held to foster interactive discussions with the faculty as an integral part of the course structure.

### Overall how would you rate the training?



**To cite :** Shroff S, Suriyamoorthi S. Six-Week Online Transplant Coordination Professional Certificate Course. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p11.

## Communication is Everything

- Brain death to be communicated clearly by the Doctors
  - ✓ Simple Language
  - X Avoid medical terms e.g. 'Intracerebral Hemorrhage' 'Kept on "Life Support"'
  - X Avoid confusing terms e.g. "Kept alive" for organ donation
- Poor Communication = Distrust
- Making them repeat what you said, Take feedback



*The significance of communication in counselling the bereaved families - Ms Jaya Jairam, MOHAN Foundation*

### Role in Pre - Transplant Counseling

- To explain the necessity and importance of transplant for recipient's life and well-being
- To identify a donor in the family
- To motivate and psycho-educate the Recipient, donor and the family
- To liaison between the transplant team and the family
- To help them with a plan to undergo the process of explantation and approval



*Pre-transplant counselling in living donation by Mr Haider Ali Khan, Care Group of Hospitals, Hyderabad*

### Mrs S Siva Bakkiam, Command Hospital, Pune

"It was a very much satisfied learning experience at MOHAN Foundation. The individual attention was given to each and every student and I had a great experience which brought me some confidence. The content was extremely good. The only request from my side is to provide hard copy of syllabus in future which will be helpful and easier to the students."

## CME on 'Brain Death and Organ Donation' at Sahyadri Super Specialty Hospitals, Pune

An ICU Workshop was conducted on March 10, 2024 with Maharashtra Medical Council (MMC) credit points, in partnership with ZTCC Pune, for Sahyadri Group of Hospitals in Pune. This event was attended by 160 participants including doctors from the critical care, coordinators, nurses and administrative representatives.

Ms Jaya Jairam, Project Director at MOHAN Foundation gave an 'Overview of deceased donation in India', followed by Ms Sujata Ashtekar, Consultant ROTTO-SOTTO, Mumbai, who spoke on 'Legal framework in India'. In order to stress on the importance of corneal and skin donation after circulatory or brain death, the CME included talks by Dr Pranav More, Ophthalmologist and Dr Jaysing Shinde, Skin Bank incharge at Surya Hospital.



*Col (retd) Dr Sunil Rao, COO, Sahyadri Hospitals welcoming the participants*



*Dr Rahul Pandit discussing 'Brain death certification'*



*Ms Jaya Jairam, MOHAN Foundation speaking on 'Grief counselling and Making the ask for organ donation'*

This was followed by extremely engaging talks by Dr Rahul Pandit, an expert in critical care with vast experience in declaration of brain death, on topics of Brain stem death identification and certification, Maintenance of potential brain dead donor and Discussions on common pitfalls and practical considerations in brain death certifications.

Activities highlighting responsibilities and need for effective role allocation when having a brain dead donor in the ICU were conducted. A simulation video on brain death testing was shown. A lecture on 'Grief counselling and Making the ask for organ donation' was given by Ms Jaya Jairam. This was followed by a film on 'Best and poor approach to counselling for organ donation'.

Ms Arati Gokhale, Senior Transplant Coordinator, ZTCC Pune spoke on 'Role of ZTCC and organ allocation'. Panel discussion on facilitating deceased donation with in the hospital was moderated by Dr Kapil Borwade (Director - ICU, Sahyadri Hospital) and the panel included administrative representatives, neurologists, intensivists, nephrologist, liver and heart transplant experts.

**To cite :** Jairam J. CME on 'Brain Death and Organ Donation' at Sahyadri Super Specialty Hospitals, Pune. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p11.



## Testament Towards a New Journey of Corneal Transplant & Donation in Manipur

When MOHAN Foundation commenced its efforts in Manipur in Northeast in 2019, an exceedingly underserved region, only one private hospital conducted renal transplants. Collaborating with Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS), the state government hospital, the Foundation assisted in initiating their renal transplant program. Over the past two years, the hospital has successfully performed 51 transplants. When our team facilitated the first deceased organ donation in August 2023, the absence of an eye bank prevented corneal retrieval. It was disheartening to realize that, even in 2024, eye donation was not feasible.

Given the importance of corneal transplant, MOHAN Foundation started coordinating with National Programme for Control of Blindness & Visual Impairment (NPCBVI) under National Health Mission, Manipur since April 2022. They then joined hands with LV Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad for training and other expertise. A formal tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the three organisations and the first eye bank of Manipur called "Manipur State Eye Bank" at State Ophthalmic Cell was inaugurated on November 29, 2023.

On January 18, 2024, with corneas generously provided by LVPEI, Manipur State Eye Bank conducted the first corneal transplant. 47 years old, Yumnam Surjit underwent the first corneal transplant.

"My left eye has been impaired for the past 30 years due to an injury during the National Cadet Corps camping, and I have lived half of my life in darkness. The recovery process was more emotional than I expected as if I had been walking around underwater, and now I was above the surface", **Yumnam** shared with happiness.

**To cite :** Kumar P. Testament Towards a New Journey of Corneal Transplant & Donation in Manipur. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p12.



Just one month after the first transplant, on February 12, 2024, Manipur hit history again with the first corneal donation. The donation was done at JNIMS: the corneal retrieval was done by the Manipur State Eye Bank team. With the retrieved cornea, a 38-year male underwent corneal transplant on February 15, 2024. The donation was closely coordinated by MOHAN Foundation team.

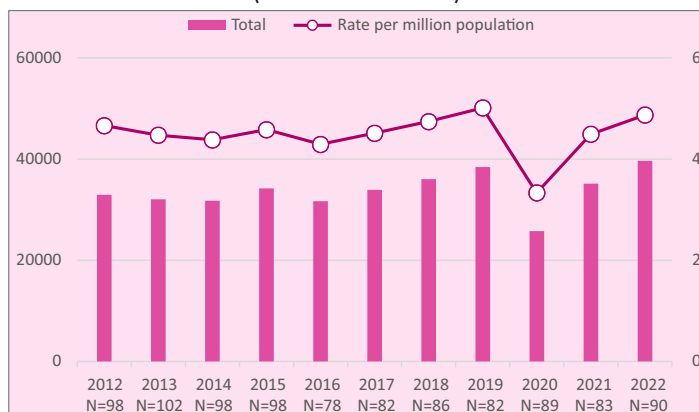
"It was indeed a proud moment for Manipur to establish Manipur State Eye bank and Corneal transplant centre in Manipur at State Ophthalmic Cell, Lamphel. We are highly grateful to the Government of Manipur, Directorate of Health Services, NHM, NPCB, LVPEI and MOHAN Foundation for all the supports and guidance in making this dream come true. We have done nine Keratoplasty till date with satisfactory results", said **Dr Vikram Singh Khoisnam, State Programme Officer, NPCB, Manipur.**

"It was a big milestone to receive the first ever eye donation in our eye bank as well as for the state of Manipur. The retrieved corneal buttons were successfully transplanted. I could not thank enough the donor families who took the brave decision. Further, we are looking forward for more developments and awareness to the public to facilitate more eye donations so that we can fulfil the needs for corneal buttons in our region", **Dr Ningombam Reagan Singh, Director In-Charge, Manipur State Eye Bank** shared with immense pleasure.

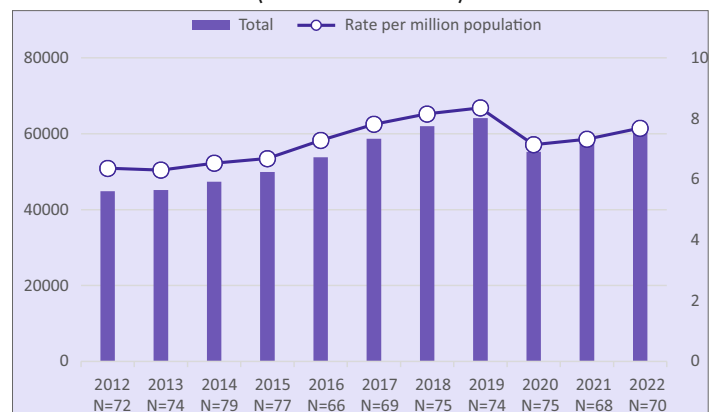
## Editorial.... (continued from page 1)

According to 2022 statistics from the Global Observatory, India accounts for 25% of living donor kidney transplants performed worldwide but only 3% of deceased donor kidney transplants. In contrast to the previous year, India experienced a decrease in heart transplants in 2023, with 221 compared to 241 in 2022, indicating a decline in heart utilization rates. However, lung transplants increased from 144 in 2022 to 191 in 2023.

**Total Kidney Transplants from Living Donors (Global 2012-2022)**



**Total Kidney Transplants from Deceased Donors (Global 2012-2022)**



## National Symposium on Legal and Ethical Aspects of Organ Donation and Transplantation

The National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO), Government of India hosted a national symposium titled 'Legal and Ethical Aspects of Organ Donation and Transplantation' on January 19, 2024, at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. The symposium aimed to establish uniform legal and ethical frameworks for organ donation and transplantation nationwide.



Dr Sanjay Nagral, Co-chair of the DICG, delivered a keynote speech addressing ethical dilemmas and challenges concerning organ donation and transplantation in India. He discussed the multifaceted ethical dimensions of these practices, emphasizing the lack of uniformity in donation and transplantation procedures. Dr Nagral highlighted the recent global guidelines, notably the Declaration of Istanbul, aimed at building public trust in the donation process while advocating against commercialism, trafficking, and human rights violations in transplantation.

The program featured several panels, each addressing distinct topics, and the discussions unfolded as follows:

### Key Legal Procedures

**Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centres (NTORCs) - Challenges encountered by NTORCs** including cumbersome licensing process, insufficient knowledge of brain death certification, managing postmortem cases, limitations in resources for maintaining brain dead donors and infrastructure, and lack of trained experts to certify brain death were discussed.

**Living donation -** The panel discussed using DNA profiling for cases of suspected document fabrication, developing standardized SOPs for SWAP donations and minor living donors in exceptional medical cases, requiring thorough justification and approvals.

**Protecting data privacy -** Protecting the privacy of donors and recipients in organ donation requires robust laws. Transparency and ethical handling of personal data, including deceased donor information, must be ensured.

### Brainstem Death

The panel discussed the importance of integrating Brainstem Death (BSD) education into medical curriculum, formalize BSD declaration as a statutory requirement, provide incentives to encourage personnel involved in BSD certification, establish Government Centers of Excellence to enhance public hospital participation for underprivileged individuals, continued awareness and media campaigns to bridge awareness gaps.

**To cite :** Shroff S. National Symposium on Legal and Ethical Aspects of Organ Donation and Transplantation. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p13.



### Swap Transplant Program

Allowing non-near relative donors for SWAP donations necessitates amending the organ transplant legislation. SWAP transplant broadens the pool of living kidney donors and could be made economically viable. Additionally, it enhances the quality of organ matches.

### Issues with Organ Donation and Transplantation of Foreigners in India

The panel addressed several areas, including mandatory registration for all foreign nationals coming to India for transplantation with NOTTO, provision of interpreters for foreign patients, the necessity for SOPs and guidelines for transplant procedures in foreign nationals in India, and the implementation of rigorous audits for transplant process for foreign patients.

### Facilitating Organ Donation and Transplantation in MLC and in Non-MLC

The panel highlighted Tamil Nadu's approach, featuring a web application, dedicated transplant coordinators, and ongoing training for deceased donation programs. They also stressed the importance of increasing awareness through Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) efforts, clarifying stakeholder roles, and considering simultaneous or virtual autopsies to smoothen the process.

### Possible Legal and Ethical Solutions in Organ Transplantation in India

While organ donations have increased, logistical challenges persist. There's a notable divide in deceased organ donations between northern and southern regions. The current system relies heavily on individual efforts, lacking uniform legal understanding.

Separating organ donation from life support withdrawal was emphasized, citing drawbacks like perpetuating unethical practices and burdens on families. Donation after circulatory death and thereby increasing the donor pool was also discussed.

Concerns were raised regarding India's readiness for an opt-out system due to fears of unethical organ use. Experiences from other countries show initial increases in donation rates, plateauing later. Spain's success attributes to both opt-out systems and extensive public education. Each country should assess which system aligns with its political framework.

**Source:** National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO)

## Making Transplants Affordable - An Initiative Touching Lives...

"Anudaan - Making Transplants Affordable" is a MOHAN Foundation initiative launched in 2021 to provide financial aid for life-saving transplants to economically underprivileged individuals. Most transplants occur in private hospitals with prohibitive costs, making them inaccessible to the poor. Anudaan contributes to transplant costs and collaborates with hospitals to reduce expenses.

### Transplants Supported:

#### Jan to Mar'24:

10 Transplants (6 Liver, 1 Kidney, 2 Heart, 1 Cornea; 5 Pediatric, 5 Adults)

#### Inception to Mar'24:

65 Transplants (42 Liver, 14 Kidney, 2 Heart, 7 Cornea; 37 Pediatric, 28 Adults)

### Anudaan Supporters (Jan' 24 - Mar'24):

**Delhi Public School, Bengaluru North:** Raised funds through a student campaign, lead by Principal, Ms Manjula, who, inspired by movie "Aye Zindagi" based on Mrs Lalitha's Raghuram's (Country Director - MOHAN Foundation) story of how she donated her own son's organs following his tragic death, collaborated to create a fundraiser on 'Fuel a Dream' platform, thereby supporting six transplants

**Delhi Public School, Sector-40C, Chandigarh:** Raised INR 3 Lakhs under Principal Reema Dewan

**Century Plyboards India Limited:** Supported corneal transplants

**Family of Late Mr T N Venkatesan:** Special thanks for continued support in his memory

**Mr Kalpesh Singh Rathod:** Special thanks for consistent support through monthly donations

**ANG Centre for Liver and Biliary Surgery Pvt. Ltd:** Special thanks for supporting

**MOHAN FOUNDATION project**

**अनुDAAN**  
Making Transplants Affordable

**An initiative touching lives...**

**PARENTS WANT HIM TO BE A ENGINEER**  
MAST PRANAV GORAKHNATH DOMALE  
2 yrs, Aurangabad, Maharashtra  
Liver Transplant on January 22, 2024

**MR. PURATCHIMANI JAYAKUMAR**  
32 yrs, Nerkundrah, Chennai  
Kidney Transplant on February 20, 2024

**MD. ISLAM MIYAN**  
61 yrs, Bhiwani district, Haryana  
Corneal Transplant on January 24, 2024

**ASPIRES TO BE A POLICE OFFICER**  
MAST NIMESH NITNWARE  
7 yrs, Nagpur, Maharashtra  
Liver Transplant on January 16, 2024

**MR. MUNEE PASHA**  
39 yrs, Bengaluru, Karnataka  
Liver Transplant on January 22, 2024

**ASPIRES TO BE A BANKER**  
MR. JAY GULAB ADHAV  
22 yrs, Thane, Maharashtra  
Heart Transplant on January 23, 2024

**Support this endeavour and enable us to aid many more transplants and aspirations**

**To cite :** Kumar P, Jairam J, Santosh S. Making Transplants Affordable - An Initiative Touching Lives.... Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p14.

## First Deceased Organ Donation at PGIMS, Rohtak



In a remarkable display of courage and compassion, a 19-year-old daughter made the brave decision to donate her recently deceased mother's organs, leading to the historic first deceased organ donation and the first kidney transplant at PGIMS Rohtak, Haryana's largest government hospital.

Amidst the family's profound grief, the daughter, who had lost her father just two months prior, found strength to honour her mother's memory through organ donation. Supported by her father's three sisters, she chose to give the gift of life to others in need. When asked what gave her the courage to take this decision, the braveheart calmly replied, "My courage comes from my parents. I know this is what they would have wanted me to do, because this is the right thing to do."

**To cite :** Kumar P. First Deceased Organ Donation at PGIMS, Rohtak. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p14.

The medical team at PGIMS Rohtak demonstrated exceptional professionalism and dedication throughout the process. They, along with MOHAN Foundation, facilitated the process with empathy, setting a new standard for organ donation in the region. From initial discussions surrounding organ donation to the meticulous coordination of retrieval and transplant procedures, every aspect was handled with care and sensitivity.

In 2021, MOHAN Foundation and PGIMS Rohtak forged an MOU to kickstart their deceased donation program. A representative from MOHAN Foundation stationed at the hospital conducted extensive public awareness campaigns in the area. Additionally, the hospital's medical and para-medical teams underwent training on identifying, maintaining, and certifying brain death, alongside receiving grief counseling sessions.

"This achievement isn't just a milestone; it is a testament to our commitment towards improving healthcare and saving lives in Haryana. The first deceased donation and kidney transplant at PGIMS Rohtak are symbols of our hard work and collective dedication. We've worked tirelessly to make this happen. We owe this success to the generosity of the donor and the strength of recipients. We hope that this is the start to many such donations in PGIMS Rohtak to save multiple lives and that this act will serve as an inspiration to many more hospitals in the region to facilitate organ donation to save lives." said **Dr Sukhbir Brar, Nodal Officer, SOTTO Haryana.**



## Building Resilience - A Patient Support Group Meeting on 'Living Well after Transplant & Organ Donation'



**Transplant Recipients of India & Organ failure patients**  
- a Movement to Provide Hope  
A PATIENT SUPPORT GROUP

A patient support group meeting organized by MOHAN Foundation on March 2, 2024 at The Comfort Inn Heritage Hotel, Byculla, Mumbai was attended by organ transplant recipients, living organ donors, those on dialysis and caregivers.

Mr Kamal Shah, the Co-founder of Nephroplus and who has been on dialysis for 26 years spoke on 'Taking charge of your Life'. Mr Sudeep Pathak, a liver recipient, spoke on 'Living Well after a Transplant'.

This was followed by a panel discussion on 'Living well & Living Long'. The panellists included the following experts - Dr Ravi Mohanka, HPB & Liver Transplant Surgeon, Dr Divya Bajpai, Nephrologist, Dr Subha Murthy, Kidney recipient of 20+ years post-transplant, Ms Mahewish Khan, Donor who donated portion of her liver to her mother at the age of 21 years, Mr Naresh Vaidya, a Liver recipient, Ms Deepa Talib, a Kidney donor.

"Every moment I stood there watching, listening and every word that got spoken, discussed, or sung, stirred something inside. Each moment gave a glimpse of what life is and what life can be. It is indeed a beautiful world. A world filled with beautiful people, all heroes of the stories they shared" - **A kidney recipient.**

"Firstly, thank you MOHAN Foundation for the invitation to the Support Group Meeting. It was quite informative, well organized and had so many positive and motivating vibes. Looking forward to the next program." - **Mother of a kidney recipient.**



*'Taking charge of your Life' by Mr Kamal Shah, Co-founder, Nephroplus*



**To cite :** Jairam J. Building Resilience - A Patient Support Group Meeting on 'Living Well after Transplant & Organ Donation'. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p15.

## Kids Dash to Support Organ Donation

On March 10, 2024, over 300 children participated in a Kids Dash for Organ Donation, enjoying a lively Sunday morning at Rajarathinam Stadium, Chennai. The run organized by MOHAN Foundation featured four categories, ranging from 50 meters to 800 meters within the stadium. In addition to the run, there were games, gifts, and complimentary medical and dental check-ups for both children and parents.

The event welcomed esteemed chief guests, including Mr Rohit Toshniwal, Director of Toshniwal Instruments, Lion J. Preenatharan, and Dr K. Indira. Special guests, such as Ms Shaharshini (12), Master Dinesh Kumar (9), and Mr Hariharan (21), who had received a second chance at life through transplants, were honored. The parents shared their children's stories before and after transplantation, inspiring many others to support the cause.

The sports teachers from Jai Gopal Garodia Schools were appreciated for their seamless coordination and assistance, while students from CTTE College and Stella Maris College were recognized for their valuable contribution as student volunteers. The event was compered by Ms Malina, an upcoming artist in Tamil film industry.

**To cite :** Kanvinde H. Kids Dash to Support Organ Donation. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2024 Jan-Mar; 23(1):p15.





Project

# GIFT HOPE, GIFT LIFE

Supported by



Project Activities  
(May 2021 - March 2024)

## Training

PG Diploma in  
Transplant Coordination  
& Grief Counselling

**86**  
Trained India, Botswana  
& Sri Lanka

99% rated the course  
Good to Excellent

ICU Personnel  
Trained - **421**



Organ Retrieval Training  
for Surgeons - **108**



Masterclass  
Beneficiaries - **809**



## Workshop

International Workshop  
(10 Countries)  
- **150**



Annual Workshop for  
Transplant Coordinators  
- **432**



Advanced Skill  
Development Workshop  
- **121**



## North-East



### WORK DONE

- Tied up with a Public Hospital
- Upgraded Medical Infrastructure
- Surgeon trained at NHS, UK

### IMPACT

- 37 Kidney transplants (Live donors)
- 3 Deceased Donations
- Corneal Bank established & Corneal Transplants initiated

**Initiation  
of Organ  
Donation in  
North-East  
India:  
Manipur**

## Awareness

**424,755**  
People  
sensitized



## Helpline & Research

SBI-MOHAN Foundation  
Organ Donation Helpline

**1800 103 7100**  
(24 x 7)

Calls counselled

**28,215**

192  
Organ/Tissue  
Donations  
coordinated

27  
Whole Body  
Donations  
coordinated

## Organ Transport using Drone



## Support Group

Patient Support Group (PSG) -  
For Recipients, Organ Failure Patients  
& Caregivers

**Beneficiaries**

**1736**

Webinars

**1157**

PSG meetings

**702**

Counseling



Patient Information Manuals -  
For Dialysis Patients & Caregivers  
**20,000 Manuals**



English | Hindi | Telugu | Tamil