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MULTI ORGAN HARVESTING AID NETWORK

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MOHAN Foundation's Work gets International Recognition

MOHAN Foundation has received accolades in the international arena in recognition of its work in capacity building, healthcare advocacy and web-based technology aimed at giving an impetus to deceased organ donation in India.



Best Abstract Award for MOHAN Foundation at the 14th Congress of the Asian Society of Transplantation 2015 in Singapore

The Congress of the Asian Society of Transplantation (CAST) is the region's largest and longest running gathering of transplant physicians, surgeons and other health professionals involved in transplantation. The 14th Congress was held in Singapore from August 23-26, 2015. Dr. Sumana Navin, Course Director, MOHAN Foundation presented a paper on 'Impact of Trained Transplant Coordinators on the Deceased Donation Transplantation Programme in India', which was conferred the Best Abstract Award at the congress.

The abstract carried an audit of the work of trained transplant coordinators working in different hospitals in India with regard to their success in counselling families of brain dead patients and facilitating the retrieval of organs and tissues. In close to six years MOHAN Foundation has trained 970 transplant coordinators through its structured training programmes. The work done by trained transplant coordinators in the country resulted in the retrieval of

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... Editorial continued



Dr. Sumana Navin, Course Director, MOHAN Foundation with Dr. Harun Ur Rashid, President, Society of Organ Transplantation, Bangladesh at CAST 2015

country and 43% of the total organs retrieved from deceased donors from 2012 to 2014 on an average.

MOHAN Foundation Awarded Prestigious British Medical Journal South Asia Award 2015



Mrs. Laliitha Raghuram, Country Director, MOHAN Foundation receiving the BMJ Award for Healthcare Advocacy

MOHAN Foundation was awarded the prestigious **British Medical Journal South Asia Award 2015** in the Healthcare Advocacy category for its relentless efforts in using every tool, methodology, process and technology to promote organ donation in India and South Asia for the past two decades. MOHAN Foundation emerged a winner among 900 nominations and 36 finalists with 12 winners in different categories. The award was received by Mrs. Laliitha Raghuram, Country Director, MOHAN Foundation at the awards ceremony organised on October 30, 2015, at The Leela, Mumbai.

a total of 4229 organs and tissues from 711 deceased donors and from donation after cardiac death in the period December 2009 to September 2015 (figures updated since submission of abstract and presentation). The impact of the work of trained transplant coordinators resulted in 41% of the total multi-organ donors in the

MOHAN Foundation gets recognised at eNGO Challenge, South Asia 2015



Dr Sunil Shroff making a presentation at eNGO challenge

On October 9, 2015 MOHAN Foundation was invited as one of the finalists for eNGO Challenge, South Asia 2015 at Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi in the category 'Best use of Website and Internet tools.' This category focuses on NGOs that are using their websites to showcase activities, projects and local content to get networking and support from funding agencies. This category also includes NGOs that create awareness on certain issues through campaigning.

MOHAN Foundation got a Special mention by the Jury award in the category 'Best use of Website and Internet tools'. The award was received by Dr. Sunil Shroff, Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation.

eNGO challenge is supported by Digital Empowerment Foundation and Public Interest Registry.



Dr Sunil Shroff (5th from left) along with other winners of the eNGO challenge

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

Date: 31st October 2015

Sd/-
 Sunil Shroff
 Signature of Publisher



Organ Donation and Transplantation in South Africa: What Can India Learn?

By Simone Schriger



Simone Schriger in South Africa

This past May, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend some of the sessions of a month-long Transplant Coordinators' Training Program at the MOHAN Foundation in Chennai. I was traveling for a full year as a Thomas J. Watson Fellow¹, examining different types of corporal donation in three countries. In two of the three countries I visited – South Africa and India – I spent significant time learning about organ donation and transplantation. I sought to better understand the systems and infrastructure surrounding organ donation, the available technologies and resources in public and private sectors, the attitudes and beliefs about donating, the challenges and barriers that exist, and in what directions the field is heading. My four months in India – the final four months of my year – were greatly enhanced by the prior six months I had spent in South Africa; being able to compare and contrast two distinct systems enriched my understanding of the field and led me to identify pros and cons of both systems and ways in which both countries could learn from each other.

I am in the process of applying what I learned in these distinctly dynamic countries towards what I hope will be an enriching and comprehensive comparison of organ donation and transplantation in South Africa and India. I believe that looking to other countries and gaining a broad understanding of different systems, protocol, cultures, and technologies can aid in creating the maximal system in one's own country. Though my in-depth comparison is not yet complete, I would like to share some basic facts about organ donation and transplantation in South Africa in the hopes that this information may spark ideas and conversation in the context of India.

South Africa is a famous place when it comes to organ donation and transplantation; the first successful heart transplant was carried out in Cape Town in 1967. Despite its historical significance, however, present day South Africa has a relatively low donation rate, both absolute and relative to population, and faces a number of challenges, some of which are also faced in India.

There are 16 transplant centers across South Africa, which is home to around 53 million people (about 1/50th of the population of India!). Transplants, including kidney, liver, pancreas, and heart, are carried out in both the public and private sectors.

According to a 2014 WHO report², South Africa's organ donation and transplantation services are classified as Level 4:

"Deceased donor kidney and liver transplantation have been performed for at least five years. Heart and lung transplantation also available, either locally or via formal international cooperative organ-sharing agreements such as Eurotransplant and Scandiatransplant. Legislation permits and regulates organ donation and transplantation."

Currently, India is listed as Level 3:

"Countries that have commenced deceased donor kidney transplantation within their own borders. Sufficient local capacity – including local medical expertise – exists to perform kidney recovery surgery from deceased and living donors, kidney transplantation and recipient management. Activities may also include liver transplantation and isolated cases of heart and lung transplantation."

Though South Africa's transplantation rate remains low, compared to countries with a similar Human Development Index, South Africa is still a leader in the field³.

In South Africa, approximately 600 transplants (solid organs and corneas) occur each year, about half of which are solid organ transplants. There are an average of 4,200 people on the waiting list at any given time, and less than .2% of the population are registered organ

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A New Beginning with the Police



Dr. Hemal Kanvinde addressing the audience



Police Training College, Ashok Nagar, Chennai

One Days' Training of Trainers Course on
'Role of Police in Brain Death and Organ Donation'
14. 07. 2015



Police Training

Genesis

Of all the causes of accidental deaths, be it natural or unnatural, traffic accidents were the cause of 37.4% deaths in India for the year 2014 (National Crime Records Bureau 2014). Tamil Nadu has reported the maximum number of road accidents (67,250 cases). 26.4% of all accidents involved 'two wheelers'. For the same year there were 136 cases of multi-organ donation (Indian Transplant Newsletter – Issue No.43).

The police play an integral role in multi-organ and tissue donation. They have to identify the accident victim and verify that the family consent is bona fide. They are responsible for investigating and providing accurate determination of the cause and manner of death for each case. It is for this reason that a post-mortem becomes an important tool for their investigation.

MOHAN Foundation has been working closely with the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, Chennai which receives accident cases from nearby districts. In case the family agrees to donation, the police are requested to come to the hospital for completing the inquest. Here the counsellors faced a major hurdle – the investigating officers from mofussil towns were unaware of the concept of brain death, resulting in delay to start a donation.

Process

To overcome this roadblock MOHAN Foundation worked closely with the police conducting meetings and consultations at the highest level. Mr. K. Ramanujam, Advisor to the Government of Tamil Nadu initiated the process. At a meeting of MOHAN Foundation staff with Mr. T. K. Rajendran, ADGP, Law and Order, Mr. K. Mahendran, ADGP, Training, Mr. Ashok Kumar, DGP, Law and Order, Dr. J. Amalorpavanathan, Member Secretary, Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu (TRANSTAN) and advisors many of these issues were discussed. It was felt that while the present Government Orders (GOs) and directives were enough to ensure smooth coordination, what was lacking was the awareness about brain death and the limited timeframe to complete the coordination. This resulted in the nomination of a senior state IPS officer as a Nodal Officer for Organ Donation along with the control room.

The State Police invited MOHAN Foundation to conduct a Training of Trainers (TOT) on the 'Role of Investigating Officer in Organ donation and Brain Death'. The first TOT was held at the Police Training College in Chennai in May 2015 followed by another in July 2015. The core of the training was explanation about brain death, law, GOs and Police Circular Rc No 21421/Crime(1)/2009 and process of a multi-organ donation. Case discussions illustrated different scenarios. Practice sessions and role plays done by the trainees were critiqued by others. Audio-visual aids in the form of presentations and videos were also included. MOHAN Foundation has also conducted sessions at the in-service training centres in Chennai, Vellore, Villupuram, Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram. Till date around 700 staff of Tamil Nadu police has undertaken the training. A poster designed by MOHAN Foundation will be a part of the curriculum. These interventions have already showed some impact in past three cases – the police investigating officer had been given intimation about a multi-organ donation medico-legal case from the control room.

Future plans

MOHAN Foundation aims to translate parts of the training module into Tamil. We plan to continue with the training sessions at Police Training College.

Dr. Hemal Kanvinde



Ms. A. T. Sunitha,
Transplant Coordinator,
MOHAN Foundation,
explaining the concept of
organ donation



Ms. Gieetha, Transplant
Coordinator, MOHAN Foundation
presenting a poster on Coordination
of MLC – Organ Donation to DSP
Mr. Udayakumar



The cop who sings a different tune

Dr. Muktesh Chander is a very special cop. Unassuming and ever-smiling, this soft-spoken police officer, who also plays the flute, belies all stereotypes. But a few words into a conversation with him and you know the Special Commissioner of Delhi Police (Traffic) means business.

"When you do something out of your routine, you not only feel good, it makes you feel you have done something worthwhile", says the man who created 'green corridors' in North India, thereby facilitating smooth and timely transportation of organs in a non-stop thoroughfare, a mammoth task when you think of the chaotic Delhi traffic and the widespread apathy of people on the road.

Dr. Muktesh Chander with Ms. Pallavi Kumar. (Inset) Dr. Muktesh Chander, IPS also makes music!

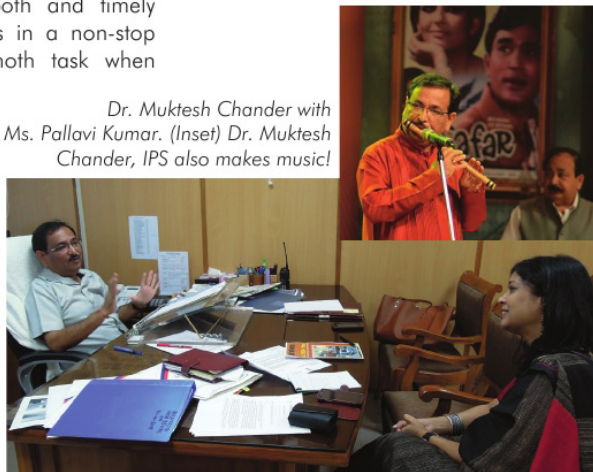
As he became involved, he realized that the notification issued by the Transport Department for free passage for Ambulances in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi had not only long expired, but the notification itself was valid only for a certain period. No one had thought of getting it renewed. He not just got the necessary changes made to the notification, but also ensured that the revised notification was applicable for all time to come to facilitate ease in implementation.

How did you get interested in organ donation?

"My passion towards the cause of organ donation is definitely for altruistic reasons but sparked off by personal reasons. My younger brother underwent a kidney transplant in 1995. My father was the donor. At that time, I was abroad for a UN Peacekeeping Mission and could not be available for my family." Dr. Chander's eyes fill up as he recollects those days. "Those were the early days of transplantation and very few hospitals were doing transplants. The

Transplantation of Human Organs Act was not in place and only live transplants were taking place in the country."

"In 2005 my brother's transplanted kidney failed again. He underwent a second transplant, this time through the generosity of a deceased donor's family. However, after years of struggle, my brother succumbed to his condition. During this time, I interacted with many doctors and hospitals and better understood the deceased donation scenario in India.



Through my personal experience where I was struggling for my dear brother for nearly 10 years, one thing became very clear to me – organ donation has to be promoted and that there is a huge need for organs in our country."

What do you think are some of the barriers?

"One of the major limitations that we have in this field is that our country's laws and systems are not in place." Dr Chander says emphatically. "On one side the system is insensitive and on the other, the laws are not effective. Certain laws can be and should be amended. Now for example, an unnatural death can be due to many reasons. If the Doctor has established the cause of the death then that aspect should not be an impediment to organ donation. The duty of the forensic expert

and the police is to determine the cause of death and should work closely with the doctor in-charge. If organ donation is not limiting that investigation, then it should be carried out as soon as possible. Why is that organs should go waste due to this lack of coordination and cooperation?" He asks in an incredulous tone.

How do we sensitise other police personnel who may not have gone through similar personal experiences?

"I have seen the entire cycle and therefore I understand the travails of patients waiting for an organ or their families. Those who have not personally gone through this or have not learned anything about this can be sensitised. Role of the police officer is to facilitate organ transplantation and they need to be educated. Organisations like MOHAN Foundation can contribute by training and educating the police personnel from different states."

He further suggested that the Foundation advocate with the National Police Academy in Hyderabad to include a small module on organ donation within the existing training for the IPS officers undergoing training or those attending refresher courses so that when a situation arises they know what is to be done.

"Our main aim should be to create an environment where no organ goes waste."

Dr. Muktesh Chander has proactively written to all the hospitals in the NCT of Delhi urging them to exercise their right for 'free passage for ambulances'. He said that the hospitals are not aware of this provision by the Transport department. He has been crusading with the administration of these hospitals to understand the notification under Section 115 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, which entitles Ambulances to use extreme right lane while attending to emergency calls (as indicated by the use of siren and flashing lights). All other vehicles are duty bound to vacate extreme right lane by moving to the left of the road. Willful failure to do so can lead to prosecution

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26th Annual Conference of ISOT A Mega Event with All time High Attendance

Chennai hosted the 26th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Organ Transplantation (ISOT) from 1st – 4th October 2015 at The Leela Palace under the leadership of Prof. Georgi Abraham (Organising Chairman) and Prof. Sunil Shroff (Organising Secretary). ISOT 2015 will go down as perhaps the most successful transplant conference in India for both attendance and content. For the first time the conference brought together all the diverse transplant related sub-specialities including many newer branches of organ transplantation like transplant pathology and immunology, infectious diseases, and composite tissue transplants besides heart, lung, kidney and liver transplants, and transplant coordination.

In addition, there was also a pre-conference tutorial programme on organ retrieval run by a special team invited from Oxford University, UK on 30th September and 1st October in Bengaluru under the banner of ISOT 2015, and a pre-conference session on 1st October 2015 plus early morning workshop sessions. A record 1200 delegates and faculty attended the conference. ISOT 2015 saw more than 35 international faculty members add to the scientific content of the conference.

Dr. C. Vijaya Baskar, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Dr. J. Radhakrishnan, IAS, Secretary to Government, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu graced the conference for the inauguration. Dr. Jagdish Prasad, Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, was the chief guest for a special public function. Eminent personalities and organisations that made an invaluable contribution to the organ donation and transplantation programme in Tamil Nadu were felicitated including Dr. J. Radhakrishnan, IAS, Mr. P. W. C. Davidar, IAS, Dr. J. Amalorpavanathan, Member Secretary, Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Prathap C. Reddy, Founder Chairman, Apollo Hospitals, Dr. K. M. Cherian, Chairman & CEO, Frontier Lifeline Hospital, Dr. R. P. Shanmugam who performed the first liver transplantation in Govt. Stanley Hospital in 1996 and is now a liver transplant recipient himself, NGOs MOHAN Foundation and NNOS Foundation. A film "Tamil Nadu – Leading the way" was also screened on the occasion.



At the ISOT inauguration (L to R) – Dr. Narayan Prasad, Secretary ISOT, Dr. Georgi Abraham, Organising Chairman, Dr. Umesh Oza, President ISOT, Dr. C. Vijaya Baskar, Hon'ble Minister for Health, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Dr. J. Radhakrishnan, IAS, Secretary to Govt., Dept. of Health & Family Welfare, and Dr. Sunil Shroff, Organising Secretary



Awardees and dignitaries at the ISOT public function (L to R) – Dr. Narayan Prasad, Dr. Umesh Oza, Dr. R. P. Shanmugam, Dr. Sunil Shroff, Dr. Jagdish Prasad, Dr. Georgi Abraham, Dr. J. Radhakrishnan, IAS, Mr. P. W. C. Davidar, IAS, Dr. J. Amalorpavanathan and Mr. C. E. Karunakaran (NNOS Foundation)



Dr. K.M. Cherian, Chairman & CEO, Frontier Lifeline Hospital receiving the award from Dr. Jagdish Prasad



Ms. Suneeta Reddy, Managing Director, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. receiving the award on behalf of Dr. Prathap C. Reddy from Dr. Jagdish Prasad

"Beginning of the New Dawn" Annual Transplant Coordinators' Conference 2015



(1) Mrs. Lalitha Raghuram, President NATCO addressing the audience, (2) Mr. Howard Nathan, President and CEO, Gift of Life Donor Program, Philadelphia, USA delivering the Swamy Narayan Memorial Oration (3) Dr. Anirban Bose, Transplant nephrologist, USA with Mr. Howard Nathan, (4) Mr. K. Raghuram felicitating Dr. Gurch Randhawa, UK (5) (L to R) Dr. Balasubramanian, Dr. Manjula Balasubramanian, Mr. Howard Nathan and Mr. Sudhir Dewan, Director-North, MOHAN Foundation (6) Film on Kidney Function & Diseases being released by Ms. Aneka Paul, Sir Ratan Tata Trust

The two-day annual conference of the National Association of Transplant Coordinators (NATCO) saw 120 enthusiastic delegates from all corners of India. As this conference was held in conjunction with the Indian Society of Organ Transplantation (ISOT) Conference, the delegates had the rare opportunity of listening to some of the finest speakers from all over the world.

Day 1 started with Mr. Howard Nathan, President & CEO, Gift of Life Donor Program, Philadelphia, sharing his experience with deceased organ donation. Followed by this was a presentation on the latest marvel in medical history, the presentation by Dr. Subramania Iyer on "Dual Hand Transplantation".

The NATCO conference was formally inaugurated by Dr. Jagdish Prasad, Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. He lauded the work done by transplant coordinators, and urged them to continue to do the good work of saving the life of patients that are suffering with end stage organ failure. The other guests for the inaugural programme were Dr. Manjula Balasubramanian, Dr. Balasubramanian, Dr. Anirban Bose, Dr. Anil Chandraker – all from the USA and Dr. Umesh Oza, President, ISOT.

The conference had an excellent balance of Indian and international speakers sharing their experience. Dr. Gurch

Randhawa, UK, Dr. Lori West, Canada, Dr. Hariharan Iyer, USA, Mr. Kirit Mistry, UK, and Dr. Isabel Quiroga, UK shared their experiences in deceased organ donation, in the areas of public engagement, ABO incompatible transplantation, and organ distribution.

The delegates presented excellent papers in the free paper session, which was judged by Dr. Gurch Randhawa and Mr. Kirit Mistry. Ms. Beena Pillai from Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology, Thiruvananthapuram was the recipient of the "Best Free Paper Award" for her paper on "Experiences with Homograft Valve Bank". The best poster award went to Mr. Dilip Jain from MGM Hospital, Jaipur.



(L-R) Receiving Best Transplant Coordinator awards – Mr. Jacob Mathew, Dr. Bhanuchandra and Maj. Joyot Chattopadhyay

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donors^{iv}. Though India carries out a greater absolute number of transplants per year (around 5,000 kidneys, 1000 livers and 15 hearts are transplanted annually^v) compared to South Africa, relative to population there are fewer transplants being done.

According to 2012 data from the Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation^{vi}, both India and South Africa carry out between 2.5-9.9 solid organ transplants per million population (pmp), though South Africa has a slightly higher rate^{vii}. In 2010, the number of kidney, liver, and heart transplants in South Africa was 5.29pmp, .73pmp, and .51pmp compared to 4.26, .26, and .01 in India, respectively^{viii}.

However, looking at more recent data from India, it appears that despite India's previously cited lower rate pmp compared to South Africa, there are large changes going on. According to data from 2014, India's deceased donation rate is increasing tremendously^{ix}. There does not appear to be such a trend in South Africa^x. One area where South Africa and India differ greatly is with regards to the percentage of organs coming from live donors. Whereas the majority of transplanted organs in South Africa come from deceased donors, the overwhelming majority in India still come from live donors. Recent efforts across India have worked to promote deceased organ donation, and as the country begins to rely more on deceased donors, the relative rate of transplantation in India compared to South Africa and other countries may rise substantially. In only two years, from 2012 to 2014, the deceased donation rate in India pmp has doubled, from .16pmp to .34pmp^{xi}.

In terms of infrastructure, both South Africa and India have legal frameworks governing the topic of organ donation and transplantation, and both countries have specific organizations in place that educate the public, distribute donor cards, and oversee this topic on a national level. In South Africa, the

Organ Donor Foundation (ODF), a non-profit founded in 1988, is a centralized body that promotes organ donation and educates the public through distribution of information and resources. In India, MOHAN Foundation has been extremely successful in carrying out similar tasks, as well as other organizations such as ORGAN India, Gift A Life, and others.

Whereas in India health is a state subject, in South Africa, the whole country is governed by a national policy. Nonetheless, waiting lists and allocation is done by state. With the development of the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO), India may finally have a centralized government body in place, which has the potential to greatly improve communication and collaboration between states, and better documentation of statistics.

In South Africa, donation after circulatory death (DCD) has been taking place in the public sector for several years^{xii}. Though across the world, donation after brain death (DBD) is the far more common form of organ donation, implementation of DCD is another way of increasing the number of viable organs. DCD is not yet occurring in India, but the topic is one of rising interest; the first DCD conference in India was held in August 2015^{xiii}.

One major area of focus in the field of organ donation and transplantation in South Africa is that of HIV. South Africa has one of the highest rates of HIV in the world; in 2013, the estimated prevalence was 19.1% of the adult population, compared to .3% in India^{xiv}. Due to the prevalence of HIV, many brain dead patients in South Africa – potential donors – were once deemed unsuitable due to their HIV status. Over the past decade, transplant surgeon Elmi Muller has studied the transplantation of kidneys from HIV-positive deceased donors to HIV-positive recipients. In her 2015 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, results show that at 3-5 years post transplant, outcomes of transplants from HIV-positive donors are similar to those from HIV-negative donors^{xv}. This is hugely important as a large number of

once unviable organs may now be viable, which may lead to increasing deceased donation rates.

With exciting developments in deceased organ donation taking place in both countries, it is important to remember that this is not a race. By looking at the situation in South Africa and thinking critically about what is working and what is not, one can reflect on the situation in India and adopt practices that may be effective in an India context. As India continues to move forward in the promotion of deceased organ donation, I hope that the goal of helping patients, both in the private and public sectors, stays at the forefront of the movement. With the talented medical personnel, motivated staff, and dedicated organizations such as MOHAN Foundation, I have no doubts that India will continue to improve deceased donor rates in a way that is effective, ethical, and sustainable.

- i. <http://watson.foundation/fellowships/tj>
- ii. <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/92/11/14-137653/en/>
- iii. <http://issuu.com/o-n-t/docs/2012ad>
- iv. www.odf.org.za
- v. <http://organindia.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/ORGAN-Research-Report.pdf>
- vi. <http://www.transplant-observatory.org/Pages/home.aspx>
- vii. <http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2014/12/daily-chart-11#comments>
- viii. http://srr.transplant.hrsa.gov/annual_reports/2011/pdf/08_intl_12.pdf
- ix. <http://www.mohanfoundation.org/organ-donation-transplant-resources/organ-donation-in-india.asp>
- x. www.odf.org.za
- xi. <http://www.mohanfoundation.org/organ-donation-transplant-resources/organ-donation-in-india.asp>
- xii. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3391828/>
- xiii. <http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/efforts-on-to-make-donation-after-cardiac-death-a-reality/>
- xiv. <http://www.avert.org/professionals/hiv-around-world/asia-pacific/india>
- xv. <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1408896>



Transplant Coordinators' Training Programme held in Jaipur for the first time

A one week Transplant Coordinators' Training Programme was held at the J K Lon Hospital, Jaipur, Rajasthan from 6th – 10th July 2015. There were 72 participants from all over Rajasthan and Mumbai, Dehradun. This was the 30th Training programme conducted by MOHAN Foundation.

The inauguration was graced by Mr. Rajendra Singh Rathore, Hon'ble Health Minister of Rajasthan; Mr. Neeraj K Pawan, Additional Mission Director, National Health Mission, Director (IEC) & Joint Secretary; Dr. U. S. Agrawal, Principal, SMS Hospital & Medical College; Dr Sunil Shroff, Managing Trustee MOHAN Foundation; Dr. Ashok Gupta, Medical Superintendent, J K Lon Hospital, Jaipur. Mr. Rajendra Singh Rathore congratulated the MFJCF team for the high number of delegates and stressed the need for training.

At the valedictory session, Mr. Anand Vardhan Shukla, DIG, Deputy Director, Rajasthan Police Academy, congratulated the participants, MOHAN Foundation team and MFJCF team and its convener, Bhavna Jagwani for the success of the training and said that it was team work that paid off in any endeavour.



Mrs. Lalitha Raghuram, Country Director, MOHAN Foundation (left) and Mrs. Bhavna Jagwani, Convenor, MFJCF at the inauguration



Dr. Anita Hada Sangwan of MFJCF addressing the audience



Mr. Rajendra Singh Rathore, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Govt. of Rajasthan lighting the lamp at the inauguration of the training programme



Mr. Anand Vardhan Shukla, IPS, and Mr. Rajiv Arora, Chairperson, Jaipur Citizen Forum presenting completion certificate to participant

...Interview continued from pg 5

with a minimum fine of Rs. 2000 as per provisions of section 194 (I) of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

He says, "All that is required is for the hospitals to brief their drivers regarding the same and to install a dashboard camera on the front of ambulances for recording the details of vehicles not giving the clear passage. Laws have been made for us but it is up to us to exercise them. These efforts will go a long way in ensuring priority movement of ambulances, not just for critical patients but also for reaching precious organs in time for transplantation." He has been getting high priority challans/notices delivered to the residences of offenders through the hands of the traffic cops to ensure that the person understands the seriousness of this offence and duly pays the fine.

"I personally feel a law not being implemented is worse than not having one", he says earnestly.

What do you think needs to be done to boost organ donation in India?

"To bring a change, we would need crusaders – from the public, from the health sector and from the legal system. There is a need of good motivators. Organ Donation is such a cause that people from all the sectors should be sensitised and involved. I also feel that the transplant coordinators must also know whom to contact when and how the necessary coordination is to be carried out. They should be aware of the notification; they need to be on their toes."

"I feel that everybody should put themselves in the shoes of those who need an organ to survive. They should

ask themselves, how they would react if they or their loved one needed an organ to live. Each and every individual needs to respond positively to the cause of Organ Donation for it to become a movement," says Dr. Chander, recently awarded by the government for his initiative in the creation of the green corridor.

The multi-faceted officer is also earning recognition in other areas. He has carved a niche for himself in Delhi's world of music as a flautist and has performed on Doordarshan and at several public events. How Dr. Chander finds the time for music in his busy life as a super cop, only he can tell. But he would rather smile and play a few mellifluous notes.

Editor's note – Dr. Muktesh Chander was interviewed by Ms. Pallavi Kumar, Executive Director (Delhi-NCR), MOHAN Foundation.



Transplant Coordinators' Training Programme at National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation, New Delhi



Dr. Ramdip Ray (on the right), Senior Consultant, Liver transplant & HPB Surgery, Artemis Hospital being presented a memento by Mr. Vijay Kumar, NOTTO

MOHAN Foundation in association with NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation) conducted the first joint Transplant Coordinators' Training Programme at the NOTTO office in Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi from July 20-24, 2015. The 5 day training attracted 29 participants from across 19 private and government hospitals.

NOTTO is in the process of developing a standardised national training curriculum and this training was the first step towards that process. MOHAN Foundation was invited by Dr. Jagdish Prasad (Director General of Health Services) and Dr. Saudan Singh (Director NOTTO) to conduct the training. NOTTO invited academicians, medical & non-medical people and others to observe and give feedback. NOTTO is a national level organisation set up under the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. NOTTO will function as an apex centre for all India activities of coordination and networking for procurement and distribution of organ and tissues and registry for the same in the country.

Dr. Jagdish Prasad, at the inauguration of the training, stressed that Transplant Coordinators being the crux of the programme should not just see this as a job, but rather be passionate about it and empathise with the family members and be there for them irrespective of their donation decision. The training concluded with a valedictory function which was graced once again by Dr. Prasad. He congratulated the participants for successfully completing their training. He also said that there was now an expectation from each one of them to at least make two donations happen in the coming six months in their respective hospitals.



Participant displaying her poster (with Ms. Pallavi Kumar, Executive Director, Delhi-NCR, MF on the right)



(L to R) Dr. Rajpal, MS, Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. Sunil Shroff, Managing Trustee, MF, Dr. Jagdish Prasad, DG, Dr. Dharmshaktu, Addl DG, Dr. Saudan Singh, Director, NOTTO



Participants at the training programme at NOTTO

Annual Conference

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The "Swamy Narayan Best Transplant Coordinator Award" went to Mr. Jacob Mathew from Lakeshore Hospital, Kochi, Maj. Joyot Chattopadhyay from Command Hospital, Chandimandir and Dr. Bhanuchandra, MOHAN Foundation, Hyderabad.

All the awards were given away during the valedictory function held on the evening of 4th October, 2015 by the Chief Guest Mr. K. Periaiah, IPS, DIG, Police Training College, Chennai along with Mr. V. Baskaran, Nodal Officer for Organ Donation, Tamil Nadu Police.



Ms. Beena Pillai receiving Best Free Paper award



Panel discussion on Handling a Deceased Organ Donation – (L to R) Mr. F. Sagayam (Moderator), Mr. J. Nethaji, Ms. Seema Yadav, Ms. Arati Gokhale, Mr. Balakrishnan, Ms. Niveditha Sankaran, Dr. Muneet Kaur Sahi, Dr. Vijayanand Palaniswamy



Panel discussion on How to increase the number of organ donations in the country – (L to R) Dr. J. Amalorpavanathan, Chennai, Mr. Kirit Mistry, UK, Dr. Lori West, Canada, and Dr. Anil Chandraker, USA



Faculty and delegates at the 8th Annual Transplant Coordinators Conference, Chennai



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