INDIAN TRANSPLANT NEWSLETTER Publication from MOHAN FOUNDATION

Down Memory Lane

India's First Multi-Organ Donation



K. Ganapathy

Distinguished Professor Tamilnadu Dr MGR Medical University Emeritus Professor National Academy of Medical Sciences Former Secretary & Past President Neurological Society of India Past President, Telemedicine Society of India Director, Apollo Telemedicine Networking Foundation Apollo Telehealth Services

It was reassuring to read that organ donations and transplants are slowly inching towards the pre-pandemic levels in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu has always been in the forefront of health care. I recollect with nostalgia, the public reaction to an article published in The Hindu on Jan 21st 1996 [ref: Indian Transplant Newsletter Vol. II Issue No: 6 (June 2000)] where I had shared my emotional turmoil in facilitating South Asia's first multi-organ transplant after brain death certification. Several months earlier I had presented a paper at the annual conference of the Neurological Society of India at Kochi in December 1994 on viewing the critically ill head injured patient as an organ donor. The presentation and subsequent publication created a furore. Most neurosurgeons at that time opined that we should not take proactive measures in encouraging organ donation for fear of being branded as

'Organ procurers'. However, the response from the general public even then was encouraging. Serendipity or otherwise, I had retained a few of the dozens of letters which the editor of The Hindu had forwarded to me. It is difficult in 2022 to understand a world without email, a world where one had to write on a post card or inland letter or go to the post office and buy a stamp to applaud and send encomiums to the team which did India's first multi organ donation. These sample letters which have been preserved, speak for themselves. From 1996 to possibly 2002 or so, I would have certified at least a hundred brain deaths. This was all done pro bono 24/7. It is most heartening to see the outstanding work being done by the MOHAN Foundation and similar organisations pan India. We have a long way to go . These letters say it all even after 26 years.



The enormity of the task behind the whole episods was clear to me only when I was the article 'k gift of the 'by barn in the article' is a strict of the 'by barn in dated 211.1%. The asthor though a medical man has very vividly and meticulously described the professional and ethical skill and thought behind the successful carrying out of the Multiple Organ Transplant Operation. To say the least the entire article thrilled me. The way in which the learned author has projected the mean very operation and emission of the inclusion of the medical profession in the Consumer Protection Act. May God help the Octors.

The consciousness of the attending Doctor to obtain the independent consent of the wife of the brain-dead-patient in accordance with the Transplantation of the Human Organs Rules, 1995 keeping at bay the selfish interests of the medical profession is not only very telling and impressive but also shows the extensive care taken by the medical profession.

I canapathy as I do not know his address. I will be only too happy if you can convey my congratulations to Dr. K. Ganapathy for his lucid article and also my appreciation of the deep thought and insight which he has bestowed in his article.

With warm regards and wishing you & your team all the best,

(T.S. KRISHNAMOORTHY IYER

Names to the to	TOP-1 6	अन्तरेंशी. अ तार्ड MLAND LETTER CARD
क्रिया क्रिया दिलामा दिलामा का मारा प्रदाय का क्रियामा का	To Repar Stud	Locke
ROF Respected Dector.	Kalabletia allow	The man 19
2 am 18-T Sugarthe C	* Aladrek 90 22. 1.96	Dr K. Gauspally Marsh
to with your kind permittion. I the	er,	To Aprile Hypotal Gream Road Marine 600006
The term studying in Jos waiting to you I to waiting to your kind permission kindly I have a permission to show I	"Gibr & Life" Hunder & Saili	Madras 6
If fin minutes to read this letter because of of don't want to work your precious firms.	This is a very moving article	Britania B
the prime will the provo the detail the	Starting with the grinfatereden fitters	and an and a second second
to all anult organ transplantation. Jam 1007. HS	I also wept reaching the later has	इस पत्र से पीतर कुछ न रविष्ठ NO ENCLOSUME ALLOWED को में मिन कोड सिलों WAITE MM CODE IN ADDRESS
In ready de donate alt sa plear det me	Les transid in zyen, hickday unday been transid in zyen, hickday unday building amenag next NR.	DWN W WE WE SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
a would be very themethed to you it		1 mg
2 would be very dramtful to you is the kindly help one backs "survales is approved in the see" it is gou the second Mangan have sent a 3, you do one	It may be home that are Rensachs the family the know here are housed	* Per Prix
2 you do me have you were help me.	like me sacardo	
the D and man you will help me		will the paper rock - Mar
TO LYOU PRE GENIUS ? who was your subbal	address for you or Finder I wanter	It was nice of the highlight to
a world form) the up the hard you achieve the	to her did a small to do it.	becognie to act by taking a
(x) hand work / parents Blessings / your aim /ambition /	I feet hamse you to convery 1	forming come medical concessions.
Toud work / pavents blowings / you aim /ambition / familian Even, Sam proved to say you are a Nothing must be a familian.	I falt harmote me grant. Current adorts	-1000 J (1
Nothing more to pen. Just to the state	The france darks " In Amanuly	10m
Regional Office : No. 17/7, All Aster Road Gross, BANGALORE - 560 052.	The brace daily Mischwandly	

Corresponding Author: Dr. Sunil Shroff, MOHAN Foundation, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India **Email:** shroff@mohanfoundation.org

To cite : Ganapathy K. India's First Multi-Organ Donation. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2022 Nov - 2023 Feb; 22(67):p7.