

[Draft Copy] Regional survey of tissue donation in publics and medical staffs around Osaka

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Although organ and cornea procurement have been regulated by The Organ Transplantation Act, there has been no Act or governmental procurement network in Japan. Since the late 1980s, some university hospitals have developed original banks. Finally, in 2001 guidelines for tissue procurement were established by the Japanese Society of Tissue Transplantation and the East and West Japan Tissue Transplant Network to coordinate tissue harvesting. Five tissue banks were joined to the tissue transplant network (skin in one, heart valves in two, and bone in two). As the number of tissue banks is small, each bank cooperates on procurement, but cannot cover the entire Japan.

As tissue transplantation has not been familiar to publics or even medical staffs in Japan for a long time, tissue donation has been much less than USA. To increase tissue donation, awareness of tissue transplantation to publics or medical staffs is very important. Our primary aim was to describe the current status of awareness of tissue transplantation in medical staffs including cardiovascular surgeon and publics around Osaka, Japan.

Materials and Methods: Between July 2014 and February 2015, 1,015 general citizens, 203 medical staffs (physicians and nurses including in-hospital coordinators working in emergency hospitals, and 168 cardiothoracic surgeons were invited to complete a letter survey using self-designed questionnaire.

Results: According to the questionnaire survey to general citizens, only 25.1% knew tissue transplantation, while 54.7% knew organ transplantation. 25.4% agreed to donate their organs or tissues, while 17.3% disagreed to donate their organs or tissues. But 40.1% and 35.0% wanted to get any information of tissue transplantation and current status of tissue transplantation, respectively.

According to the survey to medical staffs working in emergency hospitals, 58.7% knew tissue transplantation. 82.3% agreed to support organ or tissue procurement, while 10.8% disagreed to do so. 57.1% wanted to attend education program for including in-hospital Co. 51.2% wanted to be supported to make including in-hospital manual for tissue donation. 42.4% wanted to know the current status of tissue transplantation.

According to the survey to cardiothoracic surgeons, 78.7% knew tissue transplantation. 33.2% had used valve or vascular homografts. 57.4% wanted to use them if possible. 65.7% agreed to establish a national regulation of institution to use.

Conclusions: According to these surveys, public awareness of tissue transplantation (25.1%) has been less than that of organ transplantation (25.1%) but willingness to donate their tissue was not different from that of organs. Awareness of tissue transplantation in medical staffs in emergency hospitals was higher (58.7%) but was not still satisfactory. To increase tissue donation in Japan, East and West Japan Tissue Transplant Network in collaboration with cardiothoracic surgeons should make more effort to carry out dissemination and awareness raising with regard to tissue transplantation to publics and medical staffs.

THE TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY

wishes to congratulate

Mayuko Ogawa

as a recipient of the TTS-ISODP Scientific Award for the
13th Congress of the International Society for Organ Donation and Procurement

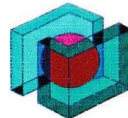
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Regional Survey of Tissue Donation in Public and Medical Staffs around Osaka

Seoul, Korea - October 2015



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