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Email received from: John Clayton
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Karen Struthers,

I saw your interview on the ABC the other night regarding the formulation of a more efficient method of harvesting the organs that donators wish to donate but are quiet often overridden by other factors.

1/ Family members too distressed to think about such things especially when confronted in an emergency ward.

2/ Several emergency wards in Queensland do not have the resources to harvest the organs. This alone is bad economics.

3/ The option for donators to specify organs is not exploited to its full potential. For example A donator does not have to donate all organs and tissue, one organ could be nominated hence the psychology of the perception of what happens to one body after death is not such a big issue if only one organ is donated and also the emergency ward can cope much better with this scenario.

4/ The ethics of paying for an organ is still a issue that is debated by those who have no idea what's its like to be slowly dying while waiting for years for a donation.

The Kidneys is an organ that we have been fortunately given twice as many as we need and even with one kidney 50% would be sufficient. People who register as an organ donor will never see the gift that they have given to the recipient but if one could donate a Kidney while still alive under a strict evaluation criteria it would be a very special gift, The pleasure is in the giving.

Criteria susgestions.

1/ Government pays for the donation which only covers costs and expenses, the rich cannot benifit.

2/ The donor must be healthy, not from a high risk group, between a curtain age, no family history of health problems, could be annominous.

3/ This could be used to aleviate the present long kidney transplant waiting list.

4/ Any descions on formulating a policy should involve those who are most exposed to these decions and that is the person on the waiting lists.

I have yet to see any transplant person or one who is still on dialysis allowed the time or be able to express the true feeling of what it is like to be granted this gift or conversely to be still on dialysis some whom have been on dialysis for many years.

The day to day grind and the perpetuality of preparing one self for yet another day of treatment is truly a huge challenge one which I have not seen any one complain.

The ethicist should give us a break from their high and mighty beliefs its easy for them. thanks and regards\

John Clayton