

追查迫害法輪功國際組織（追查國際）

World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (WOIPFG)

To investigate the criminal conduct of all institutions, organizations, and individuals involved in the persecution of Falun Gong; to bring such investigation, no matter how long it takes, no matter how far and deep we have to search, to full closure; to exercise fundamental principles of humanity; and to restore and uphold justice in society.

Investigation Recording 2020-021

Date: March 9, 2020 (+86-57187236800)

Subject(s): Doctor Chen Hao, Lung Transplant, the First Affiliated Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine

Summary

1. Right now, mainly our hospital, Wuxi People's Hospital, and Beijing China-Japan Friendship Hospital do lung transplants for the novel coronavirus patients. I don't know if the First Affiliated Hospital in Guangzhou can do it or not. I have not seen their work in the news.
2. Our wait time should be about the same as that in Wuxi, because our organs are allocated on the same platform. They are all allocated by the OPO.
3. So such a patient infected with the virus is more likely given higher priority, and could obtain it sooner.
4. Now patients do not have to pay for being treated for the novel coronavirus. I don't know if they...in the past...I don't know how Chen Jingyu's team did it. The first case was done previously free of charge, but I don't know about the second case, whether they charged for it, as they just did it on Sunday.
5. Last year we did around 30 cases, while Wuxi People's Hospital did over 100 cases.
6. In fact, it is a lot of trouble to do transplantation for an acute infectious disease. This is because if the immunogen is involved after the surgery, it could make the virus even worse. Another thing is, this is the most difficult operation after all. During an organ transplant, specifically a lung operation, the lungs are connected to the outside, so it is easy to have bacterial infection after the surgery. Then in this case, perhaps the patient's postoperative recovery may not be good.
7. Actually many patients are over 70 years old. The patients must take the risks of the operations.
8. The patient that went through an operation on Saturday is 70 years old.

9. In the fastest case, a matching donor may be found in a week. It is dispatched by air.
10. Our Director Han is the lead surgeon. We have two specialized assistants helping him. People in our team, basically are quarantined inside Zhijiang Division.
11. Not many patients with the novel coronavirus need to have transplants.
12. Investigator: “After the transplant, can the coronavirus patient be cured?”
Doctor Chen: “That is hard to say, because at our place and in Wuxi, the recent transplant cases were performed when the COVID-19 patents tested negative with the virus. It means that those transplants were done after the virus couldn’t be detected in the patients. They were done when the virus was no longer be detected. ”
13. Investigator: “Why did some doctors say this disease can be cured?”
Doctor Chen: “What we dealt with were not the urgent cases caused by the novel coronavirus, but those cases where the virus caused the lungs to be no longer usable, then we had to remove the useless lungs, and replace with usable ones when the patients tested negative with it.”
14. Investigator: “Other than transplantation, are there other means of treatments?”
Doctor Chen: “Right now none. There is no such a method proven to be effective.”

Translation

Nurse: Hello?

Investigator: Hello, how are you? Is this the operator for the First Affiliated Hospital at Zhejiang University School of Medicine?

Nurse: This is not the operator.

Investigator: Oh, not the operator. Could you transfer me to Lung Transplant?

Nurse: This is Lung Transplant. How can I help you?

Investigator: Oh, my friend gave me this number. I am sorry. I want to ask a question. Yes, my father-in-law got infected with COVID-19. Our hometown is in Anhui. We saw that you can do lung transplantation. So I want to ask about it.

Nurse: Just a minute. Let me ask a doctor. Give me one minute, let me see if the doctor is around.

Investigator: Okay, thank you.

(While waiting)

Doctor Chen: Hello?

Investigator: Hi, how are you, Doctor? What is your last name?

Doctor Chen: My last name is Chen.

Investigator: Oh. Greetings, Doctor Chen. It's like this. I read from the web that you can do lung transplants for the COVID-19 patients.

Doctor Chen: Yes.

Investigator: Oh. It is an old man, who's got sick with COVID-19. So, I'd like to know if you can do lung transplants.

Doctor Chen: Ah, yes.

Investigator: Okay, so, how long roughly would be the wait time?

Doctor Chen: Well, that is hard to say. Because, first of all, you need to get the tissue typing done.

Investigator: Oh.

Doctor Chen: Secondly, uh, besides that, where are you located?

Investigator: We...my father-in-law is in Anhui. He is a senior official. I...my husband and I are abroad. So if you can do it, we will arrange for him to go to your hospital. But I want to know how long the wait time would be at your place, because the old gentleman is in poor condition. So I also want to ask, other than your hospital, are there other hospitals in China that can do it?

Doctor Chen: Uh, the People's Hospital of Wuxi can. Yes, besides that one, China-Japan Friendship Hospital can also do it.

Investigator: Oh, including China-Japan Friendship Hospital, so totally three hospitals?

Doctor Chen: Uh, mainly these three. Yes. I don't know if in Guangzhou, that First Affiliated Hospital in Guangzhou can do it or not. But I have not seen their work in the news.

Investigator: Oh, well, I want to ask, how long would be the wait time at your hospital?

Doctor Chen: Uh, in fact, to tell the truth, our wait time should be about the same as that in Wuxi, because the organs are allocated to us on the same platform. They are all allocated by the OPO. So we are probably about the same.

Investigator: This virus is so rampant, if we have to wait for your (organ source), how could we acquire it?

Doctor Chen: Uh, in this case, because this virus is very serious, so such a patient infected with the virus is more likely given higher priority, and could obtain it sooner. But for some illnesses, like the interstitial lung disease, such patients can wait longer, and can be pushed back a bit. So we will schedule them later accordingly. Cases like yours can be scheduled earlier. But both that hospital in Wuxi and ours are on the same allocation system. Therefore, both places should be about the same in terms of the wait times.

Investigator: Oh, it seems that Beijing China-Japan Friendship Hospital...because I know in Beijing....

Doctor Chen: It's the same, also the same.

Investigator: Oh, still the same system?

Doctor Chen: But, let me tell you, perhaps you cannot go to Beijing China-Japan Friendship Hospital, because your patient has the novel coronavirus, you may not even be allowed to travel to Beijing.

Investigator: Right. Over there in Beijing, there are also many, very special cases.

Doctor Chen: Yes, yes, because, because in Beijing it will be more strict. I don't know if you can come to Zhejiang. Because it is also quite troublesome to get pushed back and transferred to another place. It is also a difficult situation.

Investigator: That is not a big deal. Because my father-in-law, he...I don't want to talk about it...

Doctor Chen: How old, how old is he?

Investigator: Over 80.

Doctor Chen: Over 80? Well, in that case, I don't ...

Investigator: He is a senior cadre.

Doctor Chen: Oh.

Investigator: You, did you participate in the lung transplant operations?

Doctor Chen: Uh, because they are in the quarantined inpatient service section, that is, after the operation they are quarantined. I don't go to the operation room, so I am not in quarantine. I am outside.

Investigator: So, are you the doctor responsible for finding the organs?

Doctor Chen: I am not, I am not. I am a doctor in our program.

Investigator: Then, then ...

Doctor Chen: We have a specialized OPO looking for the organs. They're in the organ allocation system, responsible for acquiring the organs. They're the ones in the donation system responsible for persuading the terminally ill patients to donate the organs, and getting them allocated *via* a unified allocation system.

Investigator: I want to know how high the success rate of the operations is there at your place? And how much money would it cost?

Doctor Chen: Uh, the success rate is quite good. Uh, as for the cost, we said 400,000 yuan back then. But this year, due to the insurance issue, it may go up to 600,000 yuan. Uh, another issue is the novel coronavirus. Now the patients do not have to pay for treating the virus. I don't know they...in the past...I don't know how Chen Jingyu's team did it. The first case was done previously free of charge, but I don't know about the second case, whether they charged for it, as they just did it on Saturday.

Investigator: You did a second case on Saturday, did you?

Doctor Chen: Yes, that's right.

Investigator: So, about the lung transplantation, did you do it all year last year? Did you do many cases?

Doctor Chen: Uh, we did about 30 cases last year.

Investigator: 30 cases? Do you do better, or does the hospital in Wuxi do more?

Doctor Chen: Uh, the one in Wuxi does more, but in terms of the survival rate, ours is slightly better.

Investigator: Your survival rate is higher? You did 30 cases last year?

Doctor Chen: Because, we, yes, we do relatively fewer. They do over 100 cases. We, because we do relatively fewer, then we take care of the patients more thoroughly.

Investigator: Do you think it is appropriate for a gentleman over 80 years old to have it?

Doctor Chen: Regarding that concern, in fact, to be honest, actually many of our patients are over 70 years old. I think, first of all, the patient's intention is very important. So the intentions of you all, including the patient and the relatives, are very important. Well, do you really want to get it done? Another thing is, in case something bad happens, could you accept it.

Investigator: Well, the postoperative care is very troublesome? That is, after the surgery.

Doctor Chen: Uh, as for the postoperative care, if your patient is in an acute contagious period, in fact, it is a lot of trouble to do transplantation for an acute infectious disease. This is because if the immunogen is involved after the surgery, it could make the virus even worse. Another thing is, this is the most difficult operation after all. During an organ transplant, specifically a lung operation, the lungs are connected to the outside, so it is easy to have bacterial infection after the surgery. Then in this case, perhaps the patient's postoperative recovery may not be good.

Investigator: The postoperative recovery may not be good? Oh.

Doctor Chen: Right.

Investigator: How about this...Director Han does everything in your place?

Doctor Chen: Yes, yes, it's our Director Han, uh, the lead surgeon. Then we have two specialized assistants helping them. At our place, anyway everyone within our team basically is quarantined over there at Zhijiang Division, inside the division.

Investigator: Oh. How old is the patient that you operated on Saturday?

Doctor Chen: Uh, 70 years old.

Investigator: 70 years old?

Doctor Chen: Previously...

Investigator: At your place, so the patients that you have been operating on are all senior patients, right?

Doctor Chen: Yes, basically they are relatively old people.

Investigator: Do you have any young people who have undergone such operations? So....

Doctor Chen: Yes, yes, we do.

Investigator: You do also?

Doctor Chen: We also have patients in their thirties, or in their twenties, depending on the patients' conditions. Because some illnesses, such as the interstitial lung disease, occurred long time ago, by the time the patient is in his twenties or thirties, his both lungs are useless, and must be replaced then. Others have silicosis, or those as a miner, they start to work from 17 or 18 years old. When they are in their forties, their lungs are useless. By that time, they would need lung transplants.

Investigator: Oh, now are there many patients who need lung transplants due to the novel coronavirus?

Doctor Chen: Ah, not many. To tell you the truth, there are not many indeed, because first of all, there are not many teams in the country that do such operations.

Investigator: Right.

Doctor Chen: Secondly, the patients are concentrated over there in Wuhan, Hubei. There are not many patients here.

Investigator: Well, about the wait time for the organ, you don't know anything?

Doctor Chen: Organs are usually quick. We try our best to find a match. In the fastest case, a match can be found within a week. But as far as the speed is concerned, we are the same as that hospital in Wuxi.

Investigator: How about the quality?

Doctor Chen: The quality is also the same. The same organ could be allocated everywhere.

Investigator: So the quality of the organs is okay, right?

Doctor Chen: Right. The same organ arrives—when somebody or a terminal patient donates the organ—it enters the OPO system, which then allocate it through the national network, so the organ could be allocated to Wuxi, or to us, or to Guangzhou, delivered by air.

Investigator: Oh, regarding those organs, are there any young ones?

Doctor Chen: Uh, that is hard to say, because it depends on the donation situations, it depends on the donation situations.

Investigator: (Young people usually) don't have those illnesses, no primary diseases?

Doctor Chen: Uh, usually they're those, regardless, but cannot be any tumor patients. They're all relatively good, with quite good oxygenation index.

Investigator: I, I think, usually you can find those organs in a week or so, which are still quite good and healthy, right?

Doctor Chen: Yes, that's right.

Investigator: Well, here's another question. Can this disease be cured? I mean, after the transplant, can a patient with the coronavirus be cured?

Doctor Chen: Well, that's hard to say, because at our place and in Wuxi, the recent transplant cases were performed when the COVID-19 patients tested negative with the virus. It means that those transplants were done after the virus couldn't be detected in the patients. They were done when the virus was no longer be detected.

Investigator: Oh.

Doctor Chen: I have to tell you that, yes.

Investigator: Oh, so why did some doctors say this disease can be cured?

Doctor Chen: Uh, how can I put it, so, uh, what we dealt with is not the urgent cases caused by the novel coronavirus, but those cases where the coronavirus caused the lungs to be no longer usable, so we have to remove the useless lungs, and replace with usable ones.

Investigator: Oh, well, other than transplantation, are there other means of treatments, in the mainland China?

Doctor Chen: Right now, none. There is no such a method proven to be effective.

Investigator: Oh, I see. Okay, thank you.

Doctor Chen: So, if you, if you'd like to call back tomorrow, can you do so tomorrow afternoon? Because, my superior doctor will be here tomorrow afternoon, he, he may be more knowledgeable, because he is responsible for taking care of the transplant patients.

Investigator: Well, could you tell me, please, the doctor's last name?

Doctor Chen: His last name is Zhu.

Investigator: It's Doctor Zhu, right?

Doctor Chen: Yes, that's right.

Investigator: He does it together with the president, President Han, with Director Han, right?

Doctor Chen: Uh, right. He is the internal medicine doctor in charge of the transplant patients under Director Han.

Investigator: As an internal medicine doctor, oh, he is relatively familiar with the situation, right?

Doctor Chen: Yes, that's right.

Investigator: Could you tell me his full name, Zhu....

Doctor Chen: Zhu Manhua.

Investigator: Zhu Manhua.

Doctor Chen: Yes.

Investigator: Oh, good. Thank you. He also has done this kind of operations for many years, has he?

Doctor Chen: Uh, yes.

Investigator: So Doctor, you are Doctor Chen, right?

Doctor Chen: Yes, yes, yes.

Investigator: Okay, thank you. Well, is Doctor Zhu a male or female doctor?

Doctor Chen: She's a female doctor.

Investigator: Oh, a female doctor. Well, you are Chen...? Could you tell me...?

Doctor Chen: Chen Hao.

Investigator: Chen Hao, right? Hao is the one as with three water droplets, right?

Doctor Chen: Yes, that's correct.

Investigator: Okay, thank you Doctor Chen. Good, I will, I will discuss with my family members, to decide what to do.

Doctor Chen: Okay, okay. You can also consult with that hospital over there in Wuxi.

Investigator: Do you have their number there by any chance?

Doctor Chen: Uh, can you search their official website? Ask them to transfer your call.

Investigator: That is not a problem. Good, okay.

Doctor Chen: Good.

Investigator: Thank you. Okay, good bye.

Doctor Chen: Good, good. Bye, okay.