## 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 2020-056**

**Date:** April 27, 2020 (+86-352-5556292)

Subject(s): Wei Xiuju, Director of Kidney Transplant, the Third People's Hospital of Datong

## Summary

- 1. Wei Xiuju is the director of Kidney Transplant.
- 2. Sometimes the wait time could be two or three months. Sometimes it could be just one or two weeks.
- 3. As for the expenses, you need to prepare 400,000 yuan.
- 4. We've had quite a few such patients, who actually came with that, with that Lifeport.

## Translation

Nurse: Hello. Urology.

Investigator: Hello. I just called in.

Nurse: Hello. How are you?

Investigator: Is Director Wei there?

Nurse: Where are you calling from? Who is this?

Investigator: Yeah. As I called in earlier this morning, I was told that Director Wei was not there yet and I should call back at 8:30. Is he there available now?

Nurse: He is at inpatient rounds. Can you wait a moment? I will find him for you. Please

just wait a moment.

Investigator: Okay. Thank you. Thank you.

(While waiting for Doctor Wei)

Investigator: Hello?

Doctor Wei: Hello. How are you?

Investigator: How are you? Are you Director Wei? (Doctor: Yeah.) How are you? A friend of mine recommended you, because my husband wanted to have a kidney transplant even before the pandemic. Then, then he has been waiting since the pandemic outbreak, and I just got the recommendation from a classmate of mine a few days ago (doctor: Ah.). I have called you a few times but you were not there. I mean we want to go to your place and get registered on your waiting list first.

Doctor: Please bring his files to me. Please do that!

Investigator: My husband doesn't have to go (with me) yet, right?

Doctor: He doesn't have to come here. Just bring his things here for me to take a look first. I'll then tell you what else is missing.

Investigator: But he already had the tissue typing done at another hospital before the pandemic, and meets all the requirements for the (kidney transplant). I am saying that the doctor recommended that he get it done as soon as possible.

Doctor: Okay, okay. Well, please bring his files over. You bring them here for me to take a look. Then I will see what else you may need, and we can discuss about it. What would you think?

Investigator: Oh. Then when is a convenient time for me to see you?

Doctor: Okay...let's do this, you come here to the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of Surgery Building at 8:00am tomorrow morning.

Investigator: At the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of Surgery Building?

Doctor: This is Urology, the place you're calling now. Just come look for me in the Urology Inpatient Service on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of Surgery Building.

Investigator: Okay. At 8 o'clock, right?

Doctor: Yeah, at 8 o'clock.

Investigator: Okay. Well, I would like to ask a couple of more questions, are you a designated COVID-19 hospital? If we come, do we need to be quarantined first? Do we need to go through a physical examination?

Doctor: Not needed. Not needed. You can just go there, you can just go to that place, that lobby place of the inpatient service, to wait for me there. You won't be allowed to come in elsewhere in the building. So we can just meet there at the lobby.

Investigator: Oh. In the lobby, we'll just meet there. I'll just also call this number when I get there, right?

Doctor: Right, that's right.

Investigator: Well, in that case, generally speaking, how long shall (the patient) wait to get (the organ) once (the patient) gets in the queue?

Doctor: That's very hard to say, very hard to say. If all the requirements are met, for example, one of our patients actually got it in less than a week last year. So sometimes that's hard for us to say.

Investigator: Ah. Right. My friend said his uncle got it in less than a week. He said it was very fast.

Doctor: Yeah. Right. Well, sometimes, sometimes the wait time could be two or three months, but sometimes could be just one or two weeks.

Investigator: Oh. Well, here's another question, generally speaking, how much money needs to be spent for a kidney (transplant) done at a hospital like yours?

Doctor: About the expenses, you need to, you need to prepare 400,000 yuan.

Investigator: 400,000 yuan, it includes everything, such as the expenses of hospitalization?

Doctor: Yeah. It covers everything.

Investigator: Okay. Everything is included. So generally speaking, the success rate at your place, it is usually relatively high, right? Usually your success rate is not an issue...well...how long does it take to get out of the hospital? How long usually does it take?

Doctor: Usually we need a month. Usually (the patient) gets discharged from the hospital in a month, out of the hospital in a month. Well, since we...from now...?

Investigator: Oh.

Doctor: Since we started doing it, that is, since we started it in 1998, we've only had one

case where the kidney failed one month after (the transplant) was done. We removed that kidney. Other than that, we've never had any other issues.

Investigator: Okay. Right. My friend said that you do a pretty good job. So in general, you do relatively more. How many can you do in a year like this?

Doctor: In a year, about ten cases can be done.

Investigator: About 10 cases, right? That's not a lot.

Doctor: Right.

Investigator: Is it you who do all (the transplants) there at your place?

Doctor: Ah. Right.

Investigator: Okay. Good. Well, well, usually—let me ask some more questions—what if the kidney source carries the virus during the pandemic? How can that be detected? Could there be such a risk?

Doctor: Depending whether he needs admission to the hospital, he must go through the tests if he does. When he arrives, then, he must go through all those tests. Right now, for example, if you want to be admitted into our hospital, we need to do all those tests to ensure you're free of the virus ahead of time, then, only after that can you be allowed for admission.

Investigator: So, what I'm saying is, if the donor who donates the kidney carries...how could you know whether he carries the virus? Then what if...is there, is there such a risk?

Doctor: To be hospitalized means...now listen to me. Even for those who are seriously ill, or regular patients, they must first, first pass the screening tests if they'd like to come to get admitted to our hospital, not to mention what you just said.

Investigator: Okay, okay. Oh.

Doctor: Regarding this novel coronavirus, ah, for sure, the patients you mentioned must be ruled out from it.

Investigator: Oh. If that's the case, then as for the donor, does he come to the hospital to directly have the (organ) extracted, or is it extracted elsewhere and brought in here? How is the extraction of the organ done? The kidney source?

Doctor: That's not necessarily the case. It depends on the kidney (sources) because we use the provincial kidney sources, which may come from a local place or from our own hospital. Like last year, we had such a case using a kidney generated in our own hospital.

That was the best scenario, where it was taken out here and immediately put in there. That was the ideal situation. However, they can be from other places. Generally speaking, the time delay (between taking out and putting in) does not exceeding six hours.

Investigator: Ah. The best is from the same hospital...at the time....

Doctor: In addition, currently, in addition, if (the kidney source) is a little far and (the time delay) exceeds six, may exceed six hours, or close to six hours, when (the kidney) gets delivered, it is brought in with that ECMO, you know?

Investigator: Oh.

Doctor: Well, that is something called, called, called Lifeport. That is so-called Lifefport. In addition, currently nationwide, some recommend that the organs not be used right after their extractions, instead, they should be cleansed and maintained with Lifeport first before being used for transplants. Currently it becomes the most recommended practice. Therefore, generally speaking, Lifeport is able to, that is to say, it allows you to maintain (the organ fresh) for about eight hours. So, usually it's relatively very effective in maintaining the organ within eight to 12 hours, with results even better than the freshly extracted (organ). Right now there are people who recommend that. So for you, that would be okay. Yeah.

Investigator: Oh. So have you put that into practice at your place? Have you tried such a method?

Doctor: Yes. Yes. We've had quite a few such patients, who actually came with that, with that Lifeport.

Investigator: Oh. Well, I would like to ask if we can pick from those donors, those who provide the kidney sources? Or if we want to pick a younger one, or...Can we pick?

Doctor: If you, if you'd like to wait for a younger one, that is, one of those (donors) who are under 50. Then, we can get it here for you. Probably you need to wait a bit longer though.

Investigator: A bit longer. How long exactly? How much longer?

Doctor: I cannot predict that. I have no way to predict that for you.

Investigator: Oh. But in my...in our relative's case, as I was told, he had it done using a very good one, with great success. He said...until now, since the surgery, he's been feeling like a very normal and healthy person as if he had never had the kidney transplant done. His kidney source was very good, and it was one he said you helped get from the judicial system. Can you still find that kind of (kidney)? He said those were from the prisons.

Doctor: No, none of those are available now-definitely not! 100% not!

Investigator: Currently none of those can be found, right?

Doctor: Right. None can be found. Of course, the best case for you is to find, say, like someone who had a car accident. It is the best if (the organ) can be extracted immediately.

Investigator: Oh. That (organ) from someone with a car accident is good?

Doctor: Oh. Right. That produces the best results.

Investigator: As a friend of mine told me, her uncle got one from a prison, from someone who practiced Falun Gong. Those from Falun Gong practitioners were very good, very healthy. That was the case.

Doctor: I am not sure about that. Let's do this. If you have any more questions, you can wait until we meet in person tomorrow. I now got to go for a surgery, I must to go for a surgery right now. Okay?

Investigator: So, let's talk about it face to face, okay? When we meet in person....

Doctor: Okay, okay.

Investigator: Well, we will also go and get in the queue at other hospitals, and pick whichever hospital is the fastest. While making our selection, we will keep you in the loop, okay?

Doctor: Okay, it sounds good.

Investigator: I will get back to you later. Thank you. Director Wei.

Doctor: Okay, okay. That's all right. Okay.

Investigator: Thank you. Bye-bye.