

to exercise fundamental principles of humanity; and to restore and uphold justice in society

A Nurse at Area B, 7th Floor, Kidney Transplant Ward, The First People's Hospital of Kunming

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Summary

- 1. Last year we did more than 200 (kidney transplants). We seem to have done more than 100 cases this year.
- 2. The organ donors for transplants in our hospital are generally brain-dead.
- 3. Not necessarily so. Some donors are from other provinces, but most donors are local people.
- 4. Sometimes, we go to fetch the organs. They are all transported here by helicopters!
- 5. Organs are sometimes available every week, sometimes after several weeks.
- 6. The hospital has a transplant team dedicated to obtaining organs.
- 7. Now, the doctors in our hospital are obtaining organs.
- 8. I didn't know there is such a website (national organ website).
- 9. We've got two teams with four directors doing transplants separately.

Investigation Recording

Investigator: Hello. Is this the Kidney Transplant Department of The First People's Hospital of Kunming? Nurse: Um, yes.

Investigator: I've got something to ask. I am a doctor, and my patient told me that you will hold a transplant conference in August. He said he hoped to have his kidney transplant done in your hospital because you may do more transplants. So, he wanted me to contact you about the current situation of kidney transplants at your hospital at present. Can he have the transplant done soon if he goes there? Nurse: He needs to queue up.

Investigator: Queue up. It means roughly ...

Nurse: Come to do the matching first, then wait in line, and we will notify you when there's successful matching.

Investigator: I know the procedure since I myself am a doctor. Currently, is your hospital still doing lots of kidney transplants?

Nurse: Um, yes. We did more than 200 cases last year.

Investigator: Oh, more than 200 kidney transplants. Then I guess this year you've also done a lot? This half year? Nurse: Um yes

Nurse: Um, yes.

Investigator: Right? Nurse: This year we seem to have done more than 100 cases.

Investigator: More than 100. So, there've been no problems with the donors. Are they generally healthy, right? Nurse: If the donor is unhealthy, we'll cancel the transplant directly.

Investigator: Oh, are there many people in line now? Nurse: Yes, the same.



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Investigator: Many people waiting in line. I heard that basically your hospital does most of the transplants, right?

Nurse: Um, right.

Investigator: Generally, are your organ donors local people or from other places? Nurse: That's uncertain.

Investigator: Are most of them local people? Nurse: Well, yes.

Investigator: What kind of donors do you have now? Are they all voluntary donations? Nurse: Oh, the organ donors for transplants in our hospital are generally brain-dead.

Investigator: Oh, brain-dead. Yet your hospital may not have so many brain-dead patients to donate organs, right?

Nurse: Uh, probably because of a car accident or something, it is judged that the victim is brain-dead clinically. Then the (organ) could be taken if the family members agree.

Investigator: Then they all happen at your hospital, right? The organs are taken at your hospital, and the donors are all your patients, right?

Nurse: Oh, it's unnecessarily so. Not necessarily.

Investigator: Not necessarily. Are they all from your province, right? There are none from the other provinces, right?

Nurse: That's uncertain. We send our own staff to fetch (the organs). People from our hospital go to get (the organs).

Investigator: Oh, you go to get them. (The organs) are not harvested at your hospital, but somewhere else? Nurse: Yes.

Investigator: Oh?

Nurse: It's uncertain. It depends on where (the organ) is. They are all transported here by helicopters!

Investigator: Oh, helicopters can fly to other provinces. It's unnecessary to use a helicopter if the organ is within the province at a short distance.

Nurse: Some are not for sure. There are donors from other provinces.

Investigator: Oh, okay. I know the National Health and Family Planning Commission has a website for coordinating organs. Do you also use this website? Nurse: I don't know this specific site. There should be one, but I don't know exactly.

Investigator: Oh, I got it. He just wants to be healthy. His main concern is... Nurse: (The organ) must be healthy. We won't do (the transplant) if it's not healthy. We'll cancel the surgery directly.

Investigator: Oh, like this... Nurse: Before we do the transplant surgery, we must do a pathological examination. All kinds of checks must be



done.

Investigator: Do you have such donated organs every week? Nurse: That's uncertain. Sometimes there are several organs within one week, while sometimes we have to wait for a few weeks to obtain (an organ). It depends on if there's a donor.

Investigator: Oh, it's uncertain. Nurse: Yes, uncertain.

Investigator: Uncertain. Generally, your hospital has special personnel to contact donors, to look for donors, right?

Nurse: Well, yes, there is a dedicated transplant team.

Investigator: Oh, the OBO group. Is there such a department that does this kind of thing? Nurse: Oh, yes.

Investigator: Are the people involved all doctors in your hospital? Or are there any people from the other hospitals to cooperate (with you)? Nurse: It used to be done on both campuses, but now it seems that only the north campus is doing (transplants).

Investigator: Oh, both campuses? Is there another hospital doing this? Nurse: Oh, our hospital has south campus and north campus.

Investigator: Which campus are you in now? The north campus? Nurse: Oh, yes.

Investigator: There's a north campus. You said there's also a north campus, right? Nurse: There's also a south campus.

Investigator: Oh, you're in the north campus? Nurse: Uh.

Investigator: Are you saying that both the south and the north campuses used to do transplants, but now the south campus no longer does it and only your north campus does it? Nurse: Oh, in the past, both campuses were coordinating if there was a donor. But now only the north campus is doing (kidney transplants) because the equipment at the north campus is relatively advanced. So, now all transplants are done in the north campus.

Investigator: Oh. If both the north and the south campuses did (kidney transplants) in the past, you must be able to do more than 200 cases (per year). You must have done more. Nurse: Right.

Investigator: In the past, your hospital must have done at least four to five hundred (kidney transplants) per year?

Nurse: I don't know the situation in the past. I just came to work here, so I don't know about it.

Investigator: Oh.



Nurse: Last year we did more than two hundred cases.

Investigator: Oh, okay. I know. Then I will let my patient know the situations. It seems that it should be relatively fast to go to your hospital to do the transplant. Nurse: Um, yes.

Investigator: What do you know about the notification of the organ transplant conference in August? Nurse: Uh, I know.

Investigator: So, all your doctors will attend the meeting? Nurse: Generally, all are required to attend. Except for those on duty, all will attend.

Investigator: Oh, both doctors and nurses must attend, right? Nurse: Ah yes.

Investigator: Oh, sounds good. All right. Thank you! Nurse: No problem.

Investigator: I'll tell the patient the situation and ask him to come as soon as possible if he has the intention. Nurse: Okay.

Investigator: Which director will do (the kidney transplant) if he comes? How many directors do kidney transplants since your hospital has done so many cases? Nurse: We've got several directors doing the transplants. They belong to the same team and do surgeries together.

Investigator: Oh, they do transplants together instead of separately. While specifically, which director is the main surgeon? In large hospitals, usually one director leads a transplant surgery. While it's not the case in your hospital. You mean all the directors do a surgery together? Nurse: They do transplants separately. The specific arrangement will be made at a suitable time.

Investigator: Oh, then how many teams do you have? Nurse: Well, three or four. Four?

Investigator: Four teams. Four teams led by four directors. Then if... Nurse: Two, two teams. They are usually divided into two teams with four directors. Usually we do two transplants, two surgeries.

Investigator: Two surgeries. Then eight patients would come for type matching. Nurse: Um, no. Four.

Investigator: Oh, four. Nurse: One kidney is for one transplant. One kidney for one surgery.

Investigator: You mean there will be two patients if two transplants are done in one day. Two transplants for two patients. (Nurse: uh) Alright. That's it. Thank you! Nurse: You're welcome.



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Investigator: Ok, bye!