

ORGAN DONATION IN TERMS OF SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS PERCEPTION OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: CORUM/TURKEY

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Introduction

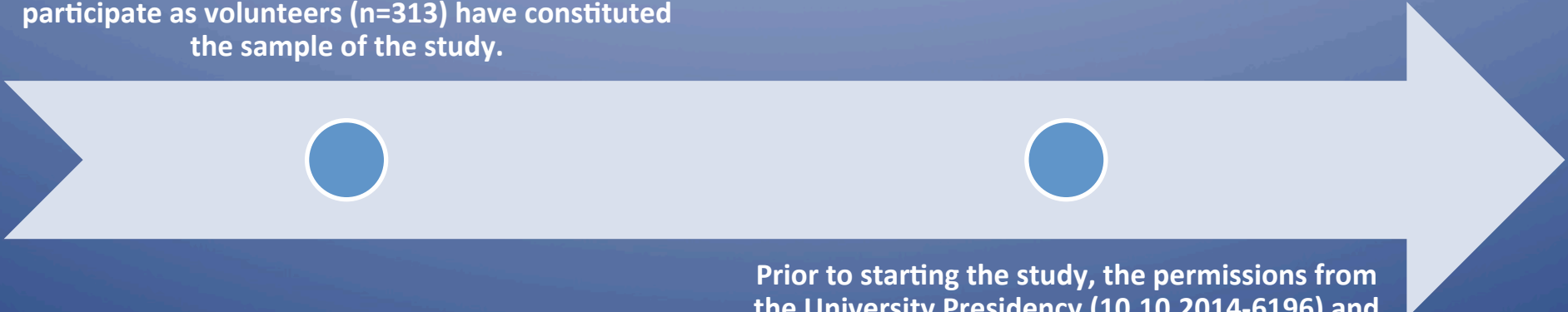
After having analyzed the existing literature it was seen that university students, the adults of future, do not have sufficient knowledge about organ donation.

With this study it was aimed to determine the perception of university students regarding organ donation in terms of sociality, education and religion and to make recommendations according to these results and to create the basis for the planned training program regarding this issue.

Methodology

It was planned to carry out the study as descriptive and cross-sectional type.

No sample selection was made in the study (N=345). Students visiting the university between the dates (15.11.2014-15.01.2015) and wanted to participate as volunteers (n=313) have constituted the sample of the study.



Prior to starting the study, the permissions from the University Presidency (10.10.2014-6196) and ethical committee (05.11.2014/E-14326) have been obtained. Additionally written confirmation has been received from the voluntarily participating students by informing them about the purpose of the study.

Results

Table 1. Socio-Demographic Attributes of Students (N=313)

<i>Socio-Demographic Attributes</i>	N	%	
<i>Year</i>			
18-21	235	75.1	
22-25	78	24.9	
<i>Gender</i>			
Male	82	26.2	
Female	231	73.8	
<i>Longest living place of family</i>			
Village-Small town	65	20.8	
City	248	79.2	
<i>Income level</i>			
Low	25	8	
Middle	275	87.2	
High	15	4.8	
<i>Graduated High School Type</i>			
Regular high school	134	42.8	
Vocational high school	64	20.4	
Anatolian– Science high school	115	36.7	
<i>Thoughts about organ donation</i>			
Positive	267	85.3	
Negative	46	14.7	
<i>Reasons of thinking negative about organ donation (N=46)</i>			
Not appropriate in terms of religion	17	36.9	
Lack of confidence	11	23.9	
Lack of courage	17	36.9	
Negative consequences despite donation	1	2.3	
<i>Did you have donate your organs?</i>			
Yes	10	3.2	
No	303	96.8	
<i>Which organs are thought to be donated?</i>			
All	168	53.7	
Kidney	19	6.1	
Liver	9	2.9	
Heart	5	1.6	
Eye	4	1.3	
Lung	1	0.3	
None	107	34.2	
<i>Status of knowing where the organ donation was performed</i>			
Knowing	71	22.7	
Not knowing	242	77.3	
<i>Average age of students</i>	Minimum	Maximum	X±SD
	18	25	20.41±1.497

Results

Analyzing the relationship between students' social, educational and religious perception of organ donation and their thoughts about organ donation; it was determined that between the following suggestions;

“Regarding organ transplantation and donation National Unity is needed.” ($p < 0.05$),

“There should be impeding conditions for organ donation in terms of religion.” ($p < 0.01$),

“I think to donate an organ while I am healthy.” ($p < 0.01$),

“Young individuals are thinking more positively about organ donation in comparison to individuals at an advanced age.” ($p < 0.01$),

“The potential positive attitude of my family will fasten my decision making regarding organ donation.” ($p < 0.01$),

“The potential positive views of people recognized by community (artists, scientists) will accelerate my positive decision making regarding organ donation.” ($p < 0.01$),

“Clergymen should inform and lead concerning organ transplantation and donation.” and the thoughts of students regarding organ donation there is a statistically significant relationship ($p < 0.05$).

Implications for policy/Practice

The most important purpose of organ transplantation is as follows; to save the life and increase the life expectancy and quality of a patient who has reached the end of life due to organ failure.

Implications for policy/Practice

For this purpose there are studies reporting that in creating the view on organ donation besides education, socioeconomic status and culture, religious beliefs are also an important factor.

Conclusion

Young people have an insufficient perception of organ donation in terms of social and educational aspects, whereas they have a sufficient religious perception. Prejudices that cause negative thoughts should be eliminated.

Systematic organizations regarding organ transplantation and donation should be carried out and it should be provided that the students take responsibility in this field.

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