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### Factors associated with negative attitudes toward organ donation among Moroccan university students

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**Objectives :** This study sought to explore the factors influencing organ donation attitude within University student in Morocco regarding deceased organ donation.

**Methods :** A sample of university students of Marrakech (n =503) stratified by age and sex was selected. Data of this cross sectional study was collected by self administered and anonymous questionnaire from 4 universities in Marrakech . The chi-square test, Student t test, and logistic regression analysis were used to analyze data.

**Results :** Of the 503 survey respondents, 40.3% were females, 40.3% were males. Mean age of the sample was  $21.5 \pm 1.7$ . 100% of students answered the questionnaire. Majority of students (86.4%) were aware of organ donation in Morocco with media as the main source of information. 57.6% agreed to donate their organs. A significant association between the religious beliefs and attitude toward organ donation among those tested can be objectified: Among the respondents who considered their religion contrary to donation , only 45.45% were in favor of cadaveric organ donation ( $P < .001$ ) . Religious beliefs were the leading factors associated with negative attitude toward organ donation. Other factors that influence the decision to be an organ donor were : Body integrity , mistrust in the organ donation law , lack of knowledge about the definition of brain death.

**Conclusions :** The attitude toward cadaveric organ donation among University students in Morocco is influenced mainly by religious beliefs and consider what their religion says regarding organ donation. A multifaceted approach toward increasing organ donation rates in Moroccan population requires targeted community-health care system collaborations involving religious and targeted education about the process and culturally sensitive media.

**Keywords :** Cadaveric organ donation , University students, Religious beliefs , Muslims