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Session Title : Kidney Transplantation Special Session

Session Topic : Structure and Function of Organ Procurement Organization for Deceased Kidney Transplantation in Asia

Date & Time, Place : June 16 (Sun) / 09:00-12:00 / Room 6 (203)

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## **Key Foundation for OPO Success III: Cultural Awareness and Public Engagement**

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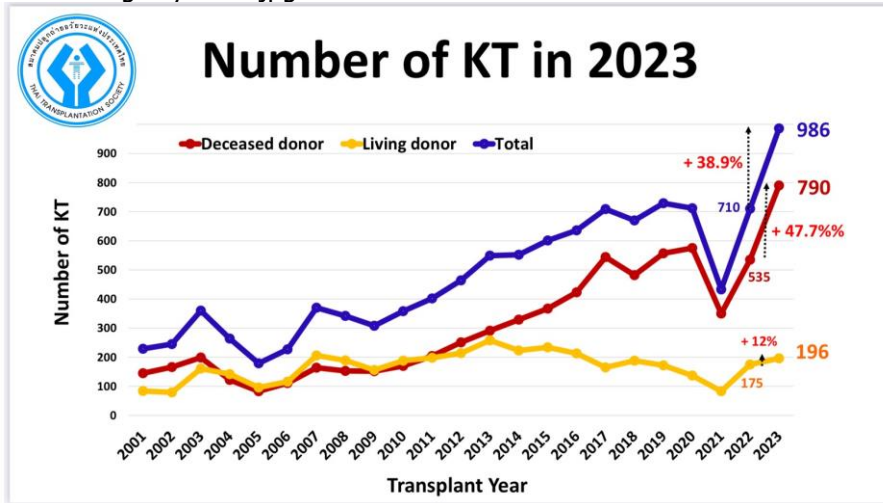
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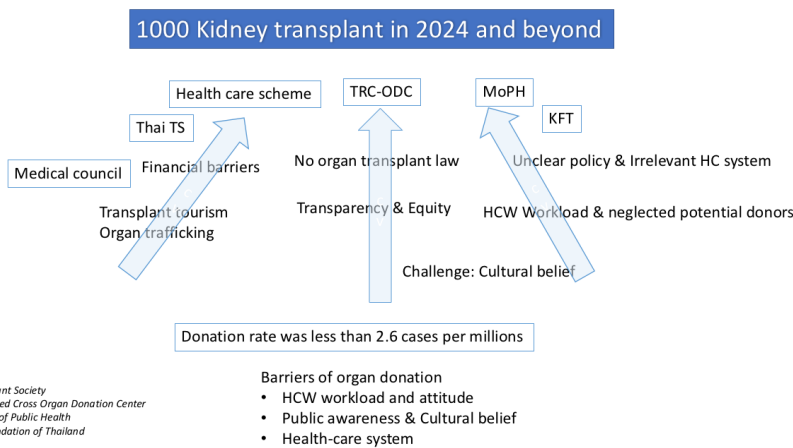
Thailand has launched a campaign of deceased organ donation as its target of 1000 kidney transplants by 2024. This is an ongoing collaboration of key organizations of the country including, but not limited to, the Thai Transplant Society (Thai TS), Thai Red Cross Organ Donation Center (TRC-ODC), Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and the Kidney Foundation of Thailand (KFT). In the year 2000, Thailand had a low-rate of organ donation (<2.6 cases per million population) and less than 200 kidney transplants per year. The Thai TS launched a countrywide-survey on the factors that determined barriers to organ donation. The project led to the transformation of transplant policy by the MoPH. The transplant policy of MoPH consists of 12 service plans of regional transplant centers all over the country, together with increased organ donors from the transplant centers by the "Deceased Donor Detection" system. Despite the middle-income economy of Thailand, organ transplant in the country has been financially supported by all health care schemes. This policy makes all Thai citizens undergo organ transplant without financial barriers. To increase public awareness, the KFT and TRC-ODC continuously launched campaigns of organ donation which successfully increased organ donors from 2.6 up to 6.8 cases per million in the last decade (2014-2024). The KFT aimed for the 1000 kidney transplants as the country's aspiration. Public awareness is largely influenced by royal family ceremonies, as well as all kinds of media. TRC-ODC and Thai TS responded to this campaign by promoting the career of transplant coordinator, developing transplant workforces and transplant fellowship. While waiting for the Human Organ Transplant Act, TRC-ODC and medical council have actively combated transplant tourism and organ trafficking. Transplant registry and donor database were very useful tools for promoting the transparency and equity of organ transplant in the country.

**Keywords:** Deceased donor detection, Donation Barrier, Policy, Public awareness, Transplant Act

Thai TS registry 2024.jpg



Thai TS registry 2024.jpg



Thai TS: Transplant Society  
 TRC-ODC: Thai Red Cross Organ Donation Center  
 MoPH: Ministry of Public Health  
 KFT: Kidney Foundation of Thailand