



Nigerian Immigrant Population in Spain Is Little Sensitized to Living-Related Kidney Donation

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ABSTRACT

Background. The Nigerian population is an emerging group in Spain and in Europe, but their sensitization toward living kidney donation has not been studied. The aim of this work was to analyze the attitude toward related renal donation while alive among the population born in Nigeria resident in Spain.

Methods. A population older than 15 years born in Nigeria and resident in Spain, stratified by age and sex, was studied with the use of the attitude questionnaire about living kidney donation, “PCID-DVR-Ríos.” People were randomly selected based on stratification. African immigration support associations advised on the location of potential respondents. Completion of the questionnaire was anonymous and self-administered. Verbal consent was requested to assist in the study. Statistical methods included Student *t* test, χ^2 , Fisher exact test, and logistic regression analysis.

Results. A total of 179 respondents were included in the study: 70% ($n = 125$) were in favor of living-related kidney donation, and 30% ($n = 54$) remained against or undecided. This attitude was associated with different psychosocial factors: marital status ($P = .001$), having offspring ($P = .029$), risk assessment of live donation ($P < .001$), partner’s opinion about donation ($P < .001$), previous relationship with donation and/or transplantation ($P < .001$), religion ($P < .001$), and fear of mutilation after donation ($P < .001$). In the multivariate analysis, the previous relationship with donation and/or transplantation (odds ratio, 8.064) persisted as the main related factor.

Conclusions. The Nigerian immigrant population in Spain has a less favorable attitude toward living kidney donation than the native western European and Spanish population.

MANY African countries present a situation of significant poverty and few possibilities for development and future expectations. This is leading to a situation with frequent wars in most countries and a dead-end situation that leads a high percentage of the population to emigrate looking for a hopeful future for themselves and their families. The destination in most cases is the European Union, with Spain and Italy as the main gateways. Within this immigrant population, that of Nigerian origin is emergent in the last years. In Spain this remarkable increase in foreign

population is creating a new social and demographic reality throughout the country [1–3].

Organ donation from deceased donors does not provide enough organs to obtain optimal transplant rates to meet the demands of the population [4]. Even in Spain, for

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example, where there is one of the highest rates of deceased donation, this type of donation is insufficient [4]. To reduce the deficit, living kidney donation is being encouraged, given that it is an ethically acceptable therapeutic option due to the low level of risk for the donor and the good clinical results achieved [5,6]. However, despite an ongoing living donor program in most Spanish transplant centers and most health care professionals being in favor, currently this type of donation is very limited [5–7]. In addition, it has been seen that Spanish patients on the transplant wait list are unwilling to accept an organ from a family member [8]. Despite these limitations, in Spain the rate of living kidney donation is steadily increasing. Therefore, we must continue to promote this donation and seek favorable social groups that could increase living donation.

The hypothesis of the present study is that the population residing in our geographic area originating from other countries (where the focus is on living donation, given the limited development of deceased donation) are in favor of living-related kidney donation, and as such could be a target group for our health care policy aimed at encouraging living kidney donation. The objective was to analyze the attitude toward living-related kidney donation among the population resident in Spain that were born in Nigeria.

METHODS

Population Under Study

The study population was >15 years of age, born in Nigeria, and resident in Spain. A random representative sample was taken according to the respondents' legal situation: 1) population with legal documentation: The population census of Spain provides the number of people of every nationality living in Spain, giving age, sex, and municipality of residence (www.ine.es/inebase/cgi/axi), and the sample was stratified by age and sex according to these data; 2) population without legal documentation: Information about this population is not as accurate as the previous group, because there is no official information, so different immigration charities were consulted to estimate the size of this group. With this information we obtained an approximate population census. The sample was stratified by age and sex.

Evaluation Instruments

Attitude was assessed with the use of a validated questionnaire about attitude toward living kidney donation [9,10], the Proyecto Colaborativo Internacional Donante sobre Donación de Vivo Renal (International Collaborative Donor Project about Living Kidney Donation) developed by Dr Ríos (PCID-DVR-Ríos) [1–3,5]. This questionnaire presented a total of 63.05% explained variance and a Cronbach alpha reliability coefficient of 0.778.

Fieldwork

Random selection of people to survey was based on stratification. Support from African immigration support associations advised on the location of potential respondents. The completion was anonymous and self-administered. Verbal consent was requested to assist in the study.

Variables Analyzed

As a dependent variable, the attitude toward living kidney donation at death was analyzed, and the independent variables were grouped: 1) knowledge variables about the donation process and organ transplantation; 2) variables of attitude toward the manipulation of the body; 3) religious variables; 4) sociofamilial variables.

Statistics

A descriptive statistic was performed, and Student *t* test, χ^2 , Fisher exact test, and logistic regression analysis were applied.

RESULTS

Attitude Toward Living Kidney Donation

A total of 179 respondents of Nigerian origin were included in the study: 70% ($n = 125$) were in favor of living-related renal donation, and 30% ($n = 54$) remained against it or undecided.

Factors That Influence Attitude Toward Living-Related Donation (Table 1)

Sociopersonal Variables. Attitude toward donation was associated with marital status and having offspring.

Knowledge Variables About Organ Donation and Transplantation Process. In this group, attitude was related to the respondents' assessment of the risk of living kidney donation: Whoever thought that there is some risk was more in favor than those who thought that there is a lot of risk (93% vs 50%; $P < .001$).

Sociofamilial Variables. Positive opinion of a couple toward organ donation favored a positive attitude toward living kidney donation (100% vs 55%; $P < .001$), as did having had a previous relationship with donation or transplantation (75% vs 44%; $P < .001$).

Religious Variables. Respondents who professed the Catholic and Muslim religions had a more favorable attitude than atheists-agnostics (75% and 78% vs 25%; $P < .001$). Likewise, thinking that your religion has a positive opinion toward donation favored a positive attitude toward living kidney donation (84% vs 60%; $P = .007$).

Variables of Attitude Toward the Manipulation of the Body. Respondents who did not care about any type of mutilation after donation were more in favor than those who were worried or had doubts (84% vs 50%; $P < .001$).

Multivariate Analysis

In the multivariate analysis, the variable with the highest specific weight in the attitude toward organ donation was previous relationship with the donation/transplantation process, that is, to have known a donor or transplant recipient (odds ratio, 8.064).

DISCUSSION

There is currently a growing tendency toward living kidney donation [4]. However, in Spain, owing to several factors, but mainly because of the great development in deceased

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