Reviewer’s report

Title: Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices survey on Organ Donation among a Selected Adult Population of Pakistan

Version: 2 Date: 15 May 2009

Reviewer: Syed Ali Anwar Naqvi

Reviewer’s report:

Although the authors have addressed some of the issues raised in my previous review, there are substantial issues that still remain. In addition, on second review I have some more observations about this manuscript.

The methodological problems with using a quantitative tool to assess attitudes and practices remains problematic. This is an inadequate tool to obtain the information that the authors wish to obtain by this study.

Additionally, even the questionnaire has some apparent weaknesses which will lead to flaws in interpretation. For instance in question 19 addressing donation after death, the authors do not give the option of the deceased giving the consent during his lifetime (as is the normal practice). This will obviously lead to misleading results.

In the very next question, they ask about "donation in case of unclaimed dead bodies". This is also a misleading question, especially because lay public is being asked about this. Unclaimed bodies are considered to be in city morgues and are obviously not candidates for harvesting organs, with or without consent. Any response to this will be misleading.

As pointed out earlier, the authors have confused the donation of blood with solid organ donation. How will they tell apart those willing to donate blood but refusing to donate a solid organ from those who are willing to donate a solid organ? In the conclusions section when the authors make the statement "...extrapolation of the results of this survey shows that there is certainly much room for improving the awareness of the individuals regarding organ donation", it is difficult to see how the authors can come to the correct conclusions when the tool they use is not only inadequate, even the questions asked are often ambiguous.

I feel that although this manuscript addresses important issues, its results based on the methodology used, are liable to be inaccurate and misleading. If the authors wish to explore this research questions, they should consider a different and more appropriate approach. In the present form, i do not recommend publishing this manuscript in your journal.