

追查迫害法輪功國際組織 (追查國際)

World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (WOIPFG)

To investigate the criminal conduct of all institutions, organizations, and individuals involved in the persecution of Falun Gong; to bring such investigation, no matter how long it takes, no matter how far and deep we have to search, to full closure; to exercise fundamental principles of humanity; and to restore and uphold justice in society

Doctor Ju: Liver transplant surgeon of the Liaocheng People's Hospital

Date: September 13, 2017 (Phone number: +866358276210)

Summary

1. "Our cost is among the lowest in the country...from 250,000 to 300,000 yuan."
2. "We've done 13 cases so far this year". they are all done by Director Li Zhu.
3. "Yuhuangding can't do them. Yuhuangding Hospital in Yantai City can't do them. Yuhuangding Hospital doesn't have the qualification for doing liver transplants. They only have that for kidney transplants."
4. "The one that does the most is Shanghai Renji Hospital, which can do over 500 cases a year, or close to 500 cases a year."
5. "the Affiliated Hospital of Qingdao University would ask you to bring about 600,000 to 700,000 yuan upfront."
6. "We are among the top five. Qilu Hospital of Shandong University, the Provincial Hospital, and Qianfuoshan are not much different from each other."
7. "We just set up our own (liver transplant) department. We will only be doing more and more."
8. "For sure we get more recognition and support from our hospital, from our country. Otherwise, we wouldn't have set it up."

Phone Investigation Recording

Investigator: Hello! How are you, nurse? Is that the hepatological surgery department?

Nurse: Yeah. How may I help you?

Investigator: Yes, I'm just wondering if your hospital can register patients for liver transplants?

Nurse: Would you please call our director tomorrow?

Investigator: Is it your Director Li?

Nurse: Yes.

Investigator: Ok, I would like to know whether your hospital can do it or not?

Nurse: Are you planning to come have the surgery here?

Investigator: Yes. Have you done any liver transplant this year?

Nurse: Yes, we have.

Investigator: Yes?

Nurse: Yes, for sure.

Investigator: It was Director Li Zhu who did it, wasn't it?

Nurse: Yes.

Investigator: So how many cases have you done so far this year?

Nurse: Quite a few cases. Would you like to call our director tomorrow?

Investigator: Do you have a doctor-on-duty tonight?

Nurse: Just a second please.

Investigator: Ok.

Nurse: Just a second.

Investigator: Sure.

Doctor: Hello, how are you?

Investigator: Hello! How are you, doctor? If a patient wants to register with you here to do a liver transplant, what's the process? Is it doable?

Doctor: What do you mean by "doable"? You have to wait for it.

Investigator: We have a fella, he had a colleague, who had a successful organ transplant surgery done by Director Li with lower costs than other hospitals, so he suggests that we should come to you for the surgery.

Doctor: Yes, our cost is among the lowest in the country.

Investigator: So for the liver transplant, how much would the cost be for the surgery plus the liver source procurement?

Doctor: From 250,000 to 300,000 yuan.

Investigator: It is the cost for the surgery, excluding the prescribed drug fees...

Doctor: The total cost, including the surgery, drugs, post-surgery examination, all the way until the recovery is complete, and you are ready to be discharged by the hospital, is about 300,000 yuan.

Investigator: Okay, your cost is indeed lower than other hospitals. (Doctor: Yes, yes!)

How many cases have you done so far this year, doctor?

Doctor: We've done 13 cases.

Investigator: 13 cases so far this year?

Doctor: Yes.

Investigator: Do you have patients in the ward, who just had a liver transplant surgery?

Doctor: Yes, we do have one post-surgery patient. When was the surgery for him? About 20 days ago.

Investigator: Oh? 20 days ago?

Doctor: Yes. What ailment does your patient have?

Investigator: Liver cirrhosis caused by hepatitis B.

Doctor: It's simple liver cirrhosis by hepatitis B? Does it have any tumor yet?

Investigator: No. That's why we are considering a transplant surgery.

Doctor: Ok. It usually does not take us more than two months. It usually takes one month or so.

Investigator: Oh.

Doctor: I can't tell you too much detailed information, anyway, the cost is very low.

Investigator: Oh, yes. You said the cost is around 200,000 yuan, much lower than most of your peers.....do you have a fee categorized as liver sourcing fee? Some hospitals are charging this liver sourcing fee for around 150,000 yuan. Do you charge this fee?

Doctor: Oh, that's some kind of compensation for the organ donor's family, through the Red Cross.

Investigator: Yeah?

Doctor: How much do they charge?

Investigator: He told me it was 150,000 yuan, which is called a liver sourcing fee. It's not the surgery cost, which is totally separate from this.

Doctor: I know, I know. 150,000 yuan is not too much, just more than what we charge.

Investigator: Isn't that low?

Doctor: Yes, but ours is lower.

Investigator: Yes, from what you told me it is indeed very low.

Doctor: Yes. It's safe to say, our fees must be among the lowest in the entire country, because we know what the fees are in Beijing and Shanghai. We are clear with the fees charged in Beijing, Shanghai and some other places. We guarantee that ours is the lowest in the country.

Investigator: You guarantee that yours is the lowest in the country?

Doctor: Pretty much the lowest. There is nobody lower than us.

Investigator: There are several hospitals doing liver transplants in Shandong. Since the colleague of my fellow townsman had the surgery in your hospital, but it was long time ago. He said...How about the Provincial Hospital, Qianfuoshan Hospital, and Yuhuangding Hospital, all of them can do liver transplants?

Doctor: Yuhuangding can't do them. Yuhuangding Hospital in Yantai City can't do them.

Investigator: They did them this year. Seems like they did them this year.

Doctor: They don't have the qualification to do liver transplants yet. Yuhuangding Hospital doesn't have the qualification for doing liver transplants. They only have that for kidney transplants. There is a total of 8 hospitals (qualified to do liver transplants) in Shandong...

Investigator: Oh, Qianfuoshan Hospital and the Shandong Provincial Hospital are included, right?

Doctor: (The hospitals in) Qingdao can do them, as well, but their fees are too high.

Investigator: The fee charged by the Affiliated Hospital of Qingdao University is high!

Doctor: Qingdao hospitals' fees are high, the Affiliated Hospital of Qingdao University would ask you to bring about 600,000 to 700,000 yuan upfront, right?

Investigator: You are right. But why the huge differences?

Doctor: Because it varies depending on regions and hospitals.

Investigator: Oh, we didn't know. So the hospital which does the most might be Qianfuoshan or the Provincial Hospital?

Doctor: No. The one that does the most is Shanghai Renji Hospital, which can do over 500 cases a year, or close to 500 cases a year. But their fees are really high, pricing out the average families. The priciest hospital in Shandong Province is the Affiliated Hospital of Qingdao University. Their fees are very high. They ask you to prepare 600,000 to 700,000 yuan upfront.

Investigator: Oh, you are saying they are doing the most in Shandong.

Doctor: Yes, but their fees are very high.

Investigator: So among the hospitals in Shandong Province, besides the Affiliated Hospital of Qingdao University, your hospital also does a lot, right?

Doctor: Yes, we are among the top five.

Investigator: Oh.

Doctor: All of us are not that much different! The Provincial, Qianfuoshan, and us are not much different from each other. There is no other left.

Investigator: Oh?

Doctor: Not much difference.

Investigator: So you, Qilu Hospital of Shandong University, the Provincial Hospital, and Qianfuoshan are not much different from each other.

Doctor: No.

Investigator: So the technology is quite mature for all of you, isn't it?

Doctor: Yes. The technology is mature for all of us. We are doing more and more.

Nonetheless, our department was set up not long ago, and we are still growing. There's no way that we can be compared to Beijing or Shanghai yet, but we are maturing little by little.

Investigator: You just said that you started this new department, but my fellow townsman had his transplant surgery in your hospital several year ago, and did well...

Doctor: I know. That was several year ago. That was then, this is now. The liver transplant department was set up last year.

Investigator: You are saying several year ago...

Doctor: No, we just created this department and we have our own team.

Investigator: But, before...

Doctor: Before it was our hepatological surgery department.

Investigator: Now you have the designated Liver Transplant Department?

Doctor: Yes. We just set up our own department.

Investigator: If you set up your own department, does that mean that you are more formal and more comprehensive?

Doctor: For sure. For sure we get more recognition and support from our hospital, from our country. Otherwise, we wouldn't have set it up.

Investigator: Ok, that sounds reasonable. Then how many cases have you done last year?

Doctor: I don't know about last year.

Investigator: Anyway, however many you have done this year, you are set out to do more later?

Doctor: We will only be doing more and more, instead of trending down.

Investigator: Great. Let me relay this information to the patient.

Doctor: Great, sure.

Investigator: What's your name, doctor?

Doctor: My name is Ju.

Investigator: Doctor Ju, I might need to consult you again later. We feel more confident after we get to know the facts better. We won't feel confused. Ok, I will let you go. So long. Bye now!

Doctor: Ok, so long!