



HUMAN TRAFFICKING FOR AN ORGAN REMOVAL (HTOR): A CALL FOR PREVENTION, PROTECTION, PROSECUTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

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(COFS)

MODERN ERA OF ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION

1954 - first successful kidney transplant conducted in Boston

1960s - liver, pancreas and heart

1980s - lung and living-related lung and liver

SUCCESS of TRANSPLANTATION

- 1) tissue typing and
- 2) immunosuppressant drugs

→ donors and recipients no longer had to be relatives but could be biologically, socially and geographically distant

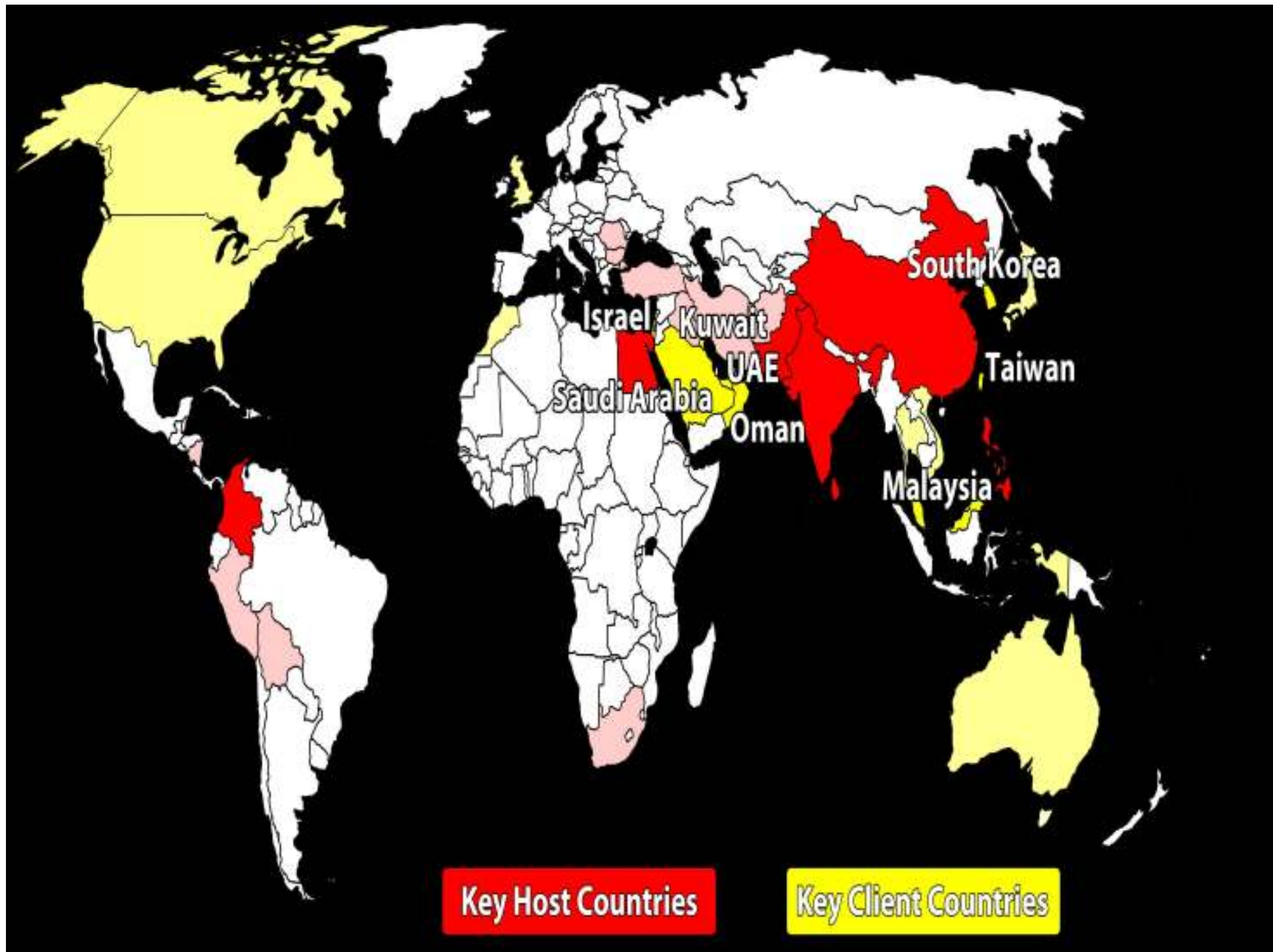


SCOPE

World Health Organization (March 2007) estimate:

illicit kidney removals for transplantation account for 5–10% of the approximately 65,000 kidney transplants performed annually throughout the world.





Key Host Countries

Key Client Countries

VICTIMS' CONSEQUENCES

	Egypt N= 50	Iran N=300	India N=305	Pakistan N=239	Philippines N=29
Health	78 % a deterioration in their health status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 58 % effects on health were very negative. • 79 % poverty prevented vendors from attending follow-up visits. • 60 % negative effects on physical abilities. 	86 % a deterioration in their health status.	98 % a deterioration in general health status.	48 % negative effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Now I get tired more easily than before' • 'I became weaker' • 'I cannot carry heavy things as I could before'
Economic/ Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 81 % spent the money within 5 months of their donation. • 73 % a weakened ability to perform labor-intensive jobs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • kidney vending caused somewhat (20%) to very (66%) negative financial effects. • 65 % reported that kidney vending caused negative effects on employment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • average family income declined by one-third after nephrectomy. • 96 % sold their kidneys to pay off debts. • 75 % were still in debt at the time of the survey. 	88 % had no economic improvement in their lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 93 % did not help economic hardship. • 21 % affected their capacity to work (N=14). • 14 % discrimination in employment (could not pass medical examination).
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68 % did not tell anyone about their donation • 91 % felt socially isolated about concerns related to their donation • 85 % were unwilling to be known as organ sellers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68 % families strongly disagreed with vending, which increased marital conflicts in 73 % of vendors. • 70 % of vendors isolated from society. • 37 % concealed the truth of kidney sale from anyone, 	15 % noted that their spouse had also sold a kidney.	N/A	N/A
Psychological/ Regret	94 % felt regret about their donation and an inability to get further assistance from those involved with their donation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preoccupation with kidney loss was usual (30%) to always (57%). • 85 % would definitely not vend again, and 76 % strongly discouraged potential vendors from "repeating their error". 	79 % would not recommend that others sell a kidney.	35 % encouraged future vending to pay off debts and freedom from bondage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 % stated regret for selling a kidney. • some also reported shame for being known as a kidney seller. • some reported getting bad 'karma' or punishment, including a decline in their health and employment.



NATIONAL LAWS ESTABLISHED ON ORGAN TRAFFICKING

India	1994
China	2006
Philippines	2009
Pakistan	2010
Egypt	2010

However, renal failure = tuberculosis →



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FATMA'S ABDUCTION

NOVEMBER 2011







- CBD is not dilated.
- Spleen is average in size, pattern is homogenous.
- Pancreas appears homogenous.
- Kidneys:
- Right kidney is average in size , site, shape and parenchymal pattern, No stones, cysts, or backpressure changes. It measures 12.6x5.5 cm.
- Left kidney is surgically removed
- No ascitis or lymphadenopathy.
- Normal course and caliber of abdominal aorta and IVC.

OPINION:

SOLITARY RIGHT KIDNEY

Best regards,

DR. HOSAM EL-SHAER, MD



The *United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children* defines trafficking in persons as:

the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.



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The UN Protocol criminalizes human trafficking,
including for the removal of an organ.

The United States ratified this Convention in 2005.



ISTANBUL DECLARATION ON ORGAN TRAFFICKING AND TRANSPLANT TOURISM

In 2008 experts on organ trafficking established the definition of organ trafficking to mean:

the recruitment, transport, transfer, harboring, or receipt of living or deceased persons or their organs by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or of the giving to, or the receiving by, a third party of payments or benefits to achieve the transfer of control over the potential donor, for the purpose of exploitation by the removal of organs for transplantation.



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5. an individual can also be received for the purpose of an organ removal- i.e. they may have been recruited indirectly



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3. encourage urgent action in key countries where HTOR continues to thrive including but not limited to Egypt and India.
- 4. support the development of further evidence-based investigations by NGOs and government bodies and support programs that provide outreach to victims of HTOR.**



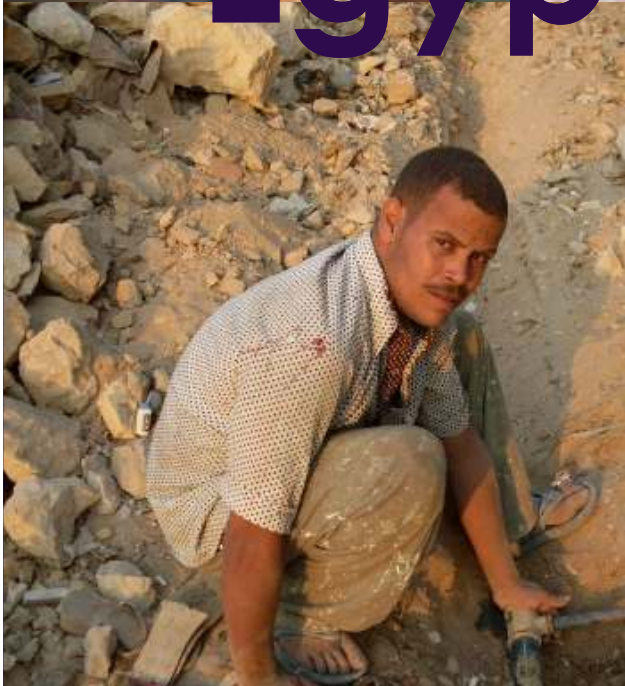
EVIDENCE BASED, VICTIM-CENTERED FINDINGS

- Egypt- Sudanese Victims
- India





Egyptian Victims





Coalition for Organ-Failure Solutions

Sudanese Victims of Organ Trafficking in Egypt

A Preliminary Evidence-Based,
Victim-Centered Report

December 2011

To view the full report, visit www.cofs.org



FINDINGS- SUDANESE VICTIMS IN EGYPT

- COFS-Egypt identified 57 Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt who said they were victims of HTOR for a kidney
- interviewed 12 of these victims
- arranged medical follow-up care for 5 of them
- ultrasounds and physical exams confirmed that kidneys had been removed in all 5 cases.



FINDINGS- SUDANESE VICTIMS IN EGYPT

- 39 (68%) are from Darfur
- 26 (46%) are female
- 5(9%) are children



FINDINGS- INDIA

- 1500 victims identified in Chennai and Erode (more being identified in Calcutta and Bangalore)
- 111 victims interviewed and provided medical follow-up
- 73 percent are female
- 94 percent reported that debt drove them to the kidney sale

