The Red Cross Society of China, Tianjin Branch
Date: November 9, 2017 (Phone number: +86+2227306997)

Summary
1. A total of over 3,000 people have been registered for organ donation in the past few years. It only shows their willingness to donate organs after death.
2. In Tianjin, there were actual over 100 donation cases in 2016, and so is this year. This does not mean that all the organs in their bodies were donated. Some parts couldn’t be used, and some parts were not donated.
3. As long as a person did not indicate before his death that he would not donate his body, if his immediate family agrees, then his organs can be obtained.
4. In China and the United States, organ donation is done differently. The most fundamental difference lies in the national conditions.
5. Tianjin currently has several dozens of national-level organ (donation) coordinators.

Phone Investigation Recording
Red Cross: Hello!
Investigator: Hi, teacher, hello! That is the Red Cross Society of Tianjin, right?
Red Cross: That’s right.
Investigator: I would like to ask a question, that is, if say a person is willing, to register for organ donation, what is in it for him?
Red Cross: It’s all voluntary and unpaid. You sign up yourself and express your willingness to donate your organs. This is completely voluntary. Besides, the prerequisite for all the donations, in principle, is unpaid, so just voluntary and unpaid.
Investigator: Oh, because there are promotions everywhere, and they said that you are doing relatively well in Tianjin. So, I give you a call.
Red Cross: What I can tell you is, the number of people who signed up in Tianjin. We have more than 3,000 people.
Investigator: The over 3,000 (registrations) you mentioned were accumulated over the past few years, right? Over 3,000 registrations, I mean.
Red Cross: Right, right.
Investigator: Oh, those over 3,000 cases might just be the people’s willingness for the time being, right?
Red Cross: Yes, but it doesn’t mean that without filling out the form, you cannot donate after death. If one meets the criteria of organ donation, it is also ok for his immediate family to co-express their willingness to donate (his organs).
Investigator: Oh, that is, for example, he’s just had a car accident, or whatever other casualties, he may donate, his immediate family members can...
Red Club: Yes, as long as this person, when he was alive, did not say that he would not donate his body, (his family members can donate his organs).
Investigator: Oh.
Red Cross: So, if this person meets the criteria of organ donation, and all his immediate family members can reach a consensus on the donation, this can also be done.
Investigator: Then I’d like to ask, they said that after the donation, the family members will get some or there is a small amount of ... financial compensation and the like. Is this true?
Red Cross: No, no, madam, it’s all voluntary and unpaid.
Investigator: In 2016, it seems that you have over 300 successful donation cases?
Red Cross: We don’t have that many. Last year we had over 100 successful donations during the whole year.
Investigator: Oh, you received over 100 donations last year, right?
Red Cross: Yes, that’s right.
Investigator: Because many people, for example, were in car accidents. His liver has actually been damaged in the car accident. In the end, even the family was willing to donate, it couldn’t be used.
Red Cross: Certainly, we’ll check to see if the organ at that time meets the requirement of donation. On the one hand, the premise is that it needs to meet the criteria of donation, and on the other hand, we’ll see if the family is willing to donate. That is to say, some organs may be donated, some may not be donated.
Investigator: Oh, the over 100 you said refers to over 100 persons. It doesn’t mean that all the organs from the persons were donated, right?
Red Cross: Yes, correct.
Investigator: I am thinking about your donation. For example, the over 100 cases you have, it is very likely that the livers in the bodies of these 100 plus persons not necessarily could all be used on patients for organ transplantation in the end, right?
Red Cross: Everyone’s situation is different. For this person, this organ meets the donor criteria. For that person, that organ meets the donor criteria. It depends on the physical conditions of each person.
Investigator: Yes, the liver, even if you receive donation in Tianjin and Shanghai, but it is still very difficult to finally match the condition of the patient.
Red Cross: Hmm.
Investigator: That is not the same as how is done in the United States. In the United States, if someone is involved in an accident or something, the person as a whole, that is to say, their online system is very complete, the personal information of this person such as DNA, is available nationwide. No matter in which city one dies, they will know immediately, hey, this person had registered, he volunteered to donate his organs. Then the nearest medical institution will definitely go to get the organs.
Red Cross: What you said is the situation in the United States. Our country’s situation is different. And, the degree of development of this cause is different. So, we can’t just copy from them.
Investigator: Hey, then in Tianjin, the so-called coordinators, how many are there in Tianjin?
Red Cross: At present, there are several dozens of national-levels (organ donation) coordinators in Tianjin.
Investigation: Oh, there are several dozen...
Red Cross: Yes, that’s right.
Investigator: Because many coordinators, like the coordinators in Shanghai, they are actually based in the hospitals. They are doctors and surgeons. One can be both a surgeon and also a volunteer coordinator.
Red Cross: Part-time coordinator, yes, there are also some in our medical institutions.
Investigator: Oh, you also have, the kind of part-time coordinators, right?
Red Cross: That’s right.
Investigator: Oh, anyway, it is still a long process to open up a new prospect currently. Because after all, our notion is still not the same as that in the Western countries, right?
Red Cross: Hum, right. The main reason is that our situation is different. The situation in our country is fundamentally different from theirs.
Investigator: Yes, that’s right. Because I know your challenges, it is not that simple. So, I can understand this thing, too. I just want to share with you, ha-ha.
Red Cross: Thanks for your attention.
Investigator: Ok, well, ok, goodbye!
Red Cross: Okay. That’s it for now, goodbye!
Investigator: Goodbye!