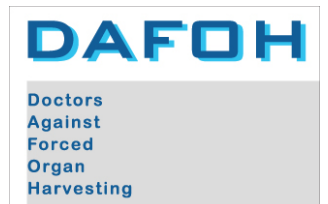


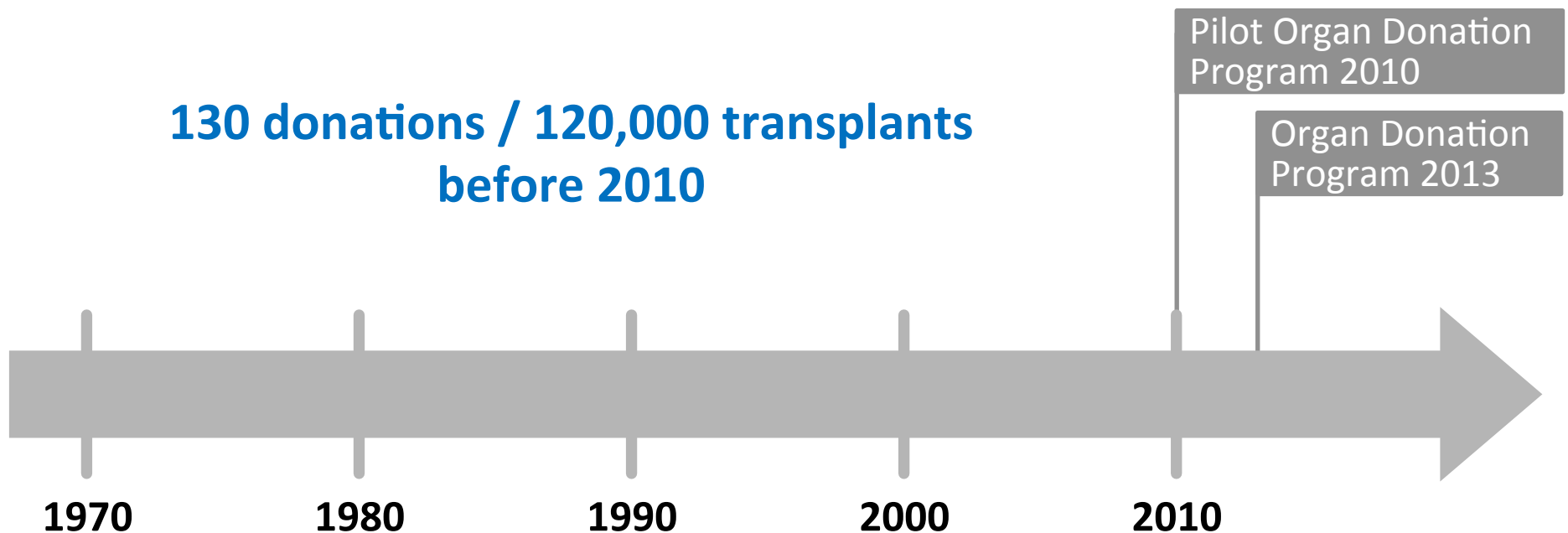
Organ procurement from executed prisoners and prisoners of conscience in China

Prof. Huige Li, MD
European Delegate DAFOH

Geneva
June 24, 2015



China started organ transplantation in the late 1960s, but had no organ donation program before 2010



The vast majority of organ transplants in China are from unethical sources

- From prisoners sentenced to death and then executed
- From prisoners sentenced to death; organs harvested before death
- From prisoners of conscience without consent nor death sentence



**Live organ
harvesting**

China's new announcement

(Dec. 03, 2014)

The New York Times

China Sets Jan. 1 Deadline for Ending Transplants From Executed Prisoners

By Austin Ramzy

December 4, 2014 5:24 am

theguardian

China to stop using executed prisoners as source of transplant organs

Move is welcomed by human rights groups but will worsen already massive gulf between demand and donations

Tania Branigan in Beijing

The Guardian, Thursday 4 December 2014 12.04 GMT

China's new trick with prisoner organs

ÄrzteZeitung

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Ärzte Zeitung online, 09.02.2015
Kommentieren (1)   9  

Organspende

Was hinter Chinas neuer Ankündigung steckt

Stoppt China tatsächlich die Organentnahme von hingerichteten Häftlingen, wie offiziell angekündigt? Wenn das tatsächlich passiert, würde die Organverfügbarkeit des Landes drastisch fallen.

Von Professor Huige Li

Am 3.12.2014 kündigte der Leiter des chinesischen Organspende-Komitees und ehemalige Vize-Gesundheitsminister (im Amt von 2001 bis 2013), Huang Jiefu, an, dass die für Transplantationen benötigten Organe ab dem 1. Januar 2015 nur noch von freiwilligen Spendern stammen dürfen.

Internationale sowie deutsche Medien berichteten seitdem, dass China die Organentnahme von hingerichteten Häftlingen stoppen würde.

Doch Berichte aus China zeigen eine ganz andere Situation auf. "Gefangene gehören nach wie vor zu den qualifizierten Kandidaten für Organspenden", so Huang.

In China werden Organe von hingerichteten Gefangenen seit den 1970er Jahren für Transplantationen verwendet. Seit 1984 gibt es Gesetze, nach denen die Organentnahme von hingerichteten Gefangenen offiziell erlaubt ist.

Obwohl das seit längerer Zeit allgemein bekannt ist, hat China diese weltweit als unethisch angesehene Praxis jahrzehntelang geleugnet.

Im Jahr 2005 gab Huang Jiefu zum ersten Mal zu, dass über 90 Prozent der zur Transplantation verwendeten Organe von hingerichteten Gefangenen stammten.

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 **Correspondence**

Organ transplantation in China: concerns remain

[Huige Li](#) , [Michael E Shapiro](#), [Charl Els](#), [Kirk C Allison](#)

 1

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)60484-6](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60484-6)

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[Summary](#) [Full Text](#) [References](#)

On Dec 3, 2014, Jiefu Huang, Director of the China Organ Donation and Transplant Committee and former Vice Minister of Health, announced that, from Jan 1, 2015, only voluntarily donated organs would be used for transplantation. Worldwide media reported that China would stop use of executed prisoners as an organ source. The Editorial¹ in *The Lancet* interpreted the announcement in a similar manner; unfortunately, this interpretation does not reflect the reality.

As early as March, 2014, Huang announced the plan to integrate organs from executed prisoners into the existing voluntary organ donation and allocation system.² The intention of this unprecedented plan is clearly shown in Huang's interview with the *Beijing Times*: "Death-row prisoners are also citizens and have the right to donate organs...Once the organs from willing death-row prisoners are enrolled into our unified allocation system, they are then counted as voluntary donation from

Huang Jiefu's recent statements regarding organs from executed death-row prisoners

Date	Statement
Dec 4, 2014 (China Daily)	“Prisoners are still among the qualified candidates for donations, but their organs will be registered in the computerized system instead of being used for private trades, which will be the main difference in the future”, Huang told reporters.
Jan 28, 2015 (People's Daily)	“Death-row prisoners are also citizens. The law does not deprive them of the right to donate organs. If death-row prisoners are willing to atone for their crime by donating organs, they should be encouraged ”.

The vast majority of organ transplants in China are from unethical sources

- From prisoners sentenced to death and then executed

- From prisoners sentenced to death;
organs harvested before death

- From prisoners of conscience
without consent nor death sentence



Live organ
harvesting

Live organ harvesting from still-living “executed” prisoners

In summer 1995, Dr. Tohti was ordered to take the liver and the kidneys from an “executed” prisoner.
“The body was still breathing”.
“The gunshot was to the right side”.



Dr. Enver Tohti
at the EU Parliament hearing
on Jan. 29, 2013

<http://www.unpo.org/article/15404>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p017k033>
<http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2013/s3763410.htm>



Jiang Yanyong
“China Hero Doctor”
who exposed the
SARS cover-up
in 2003

i-Cable News (Hong Kong)
March 6, 2015

**Later, the prisoners were shot but
not killed. The purpose was to keep
the warm ischemia time of the
donor liver as short as possible**

[http://cablenews.i-cable.com/webapps/news_video/
index.php?news_id=453447](http://cablenews.i-cable.com/webapps/news_video/index.php?news_id=453447)

The vast majority of organ transplants in China are from unethical sources

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without consent nor death sentence

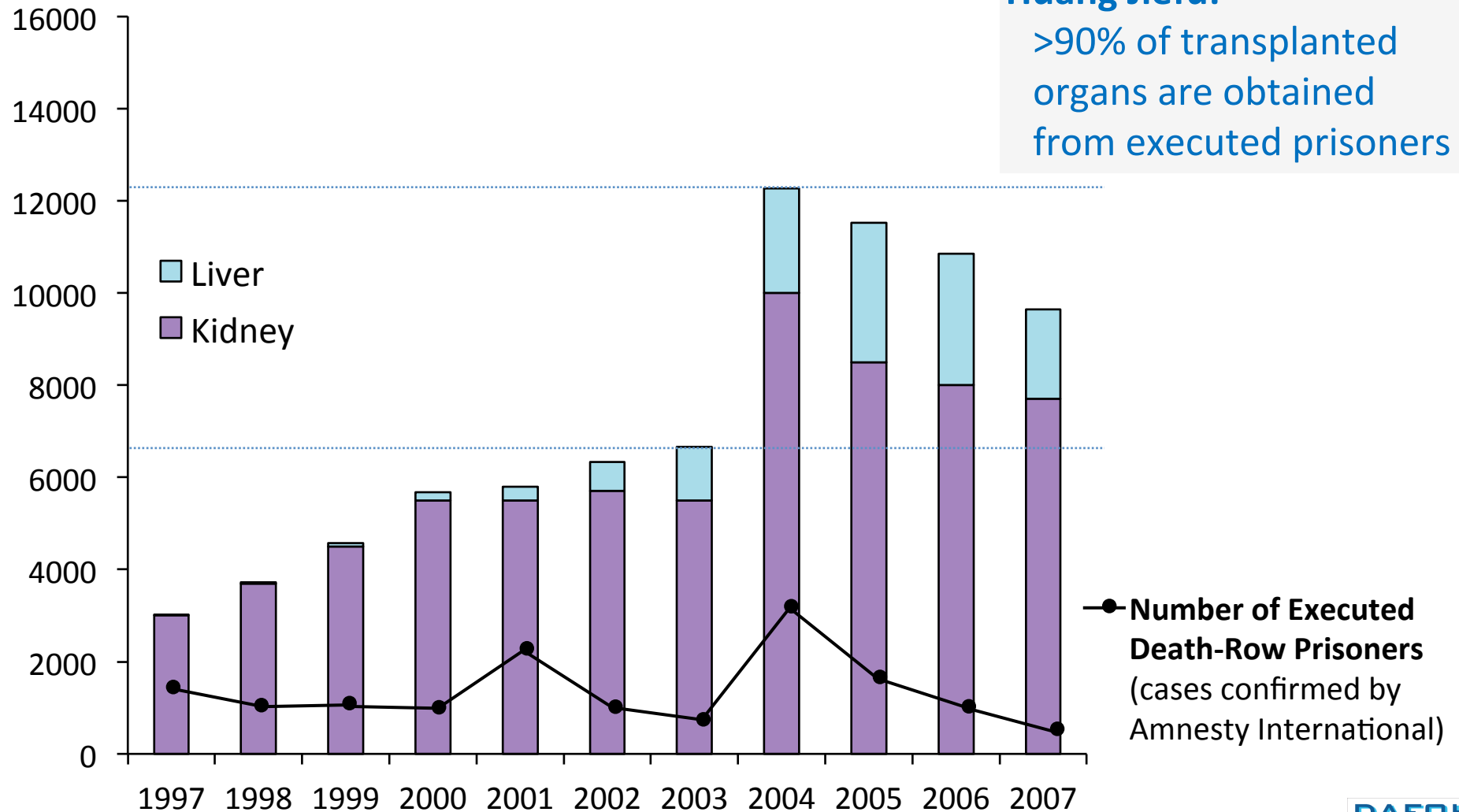


Live organ
harvesting

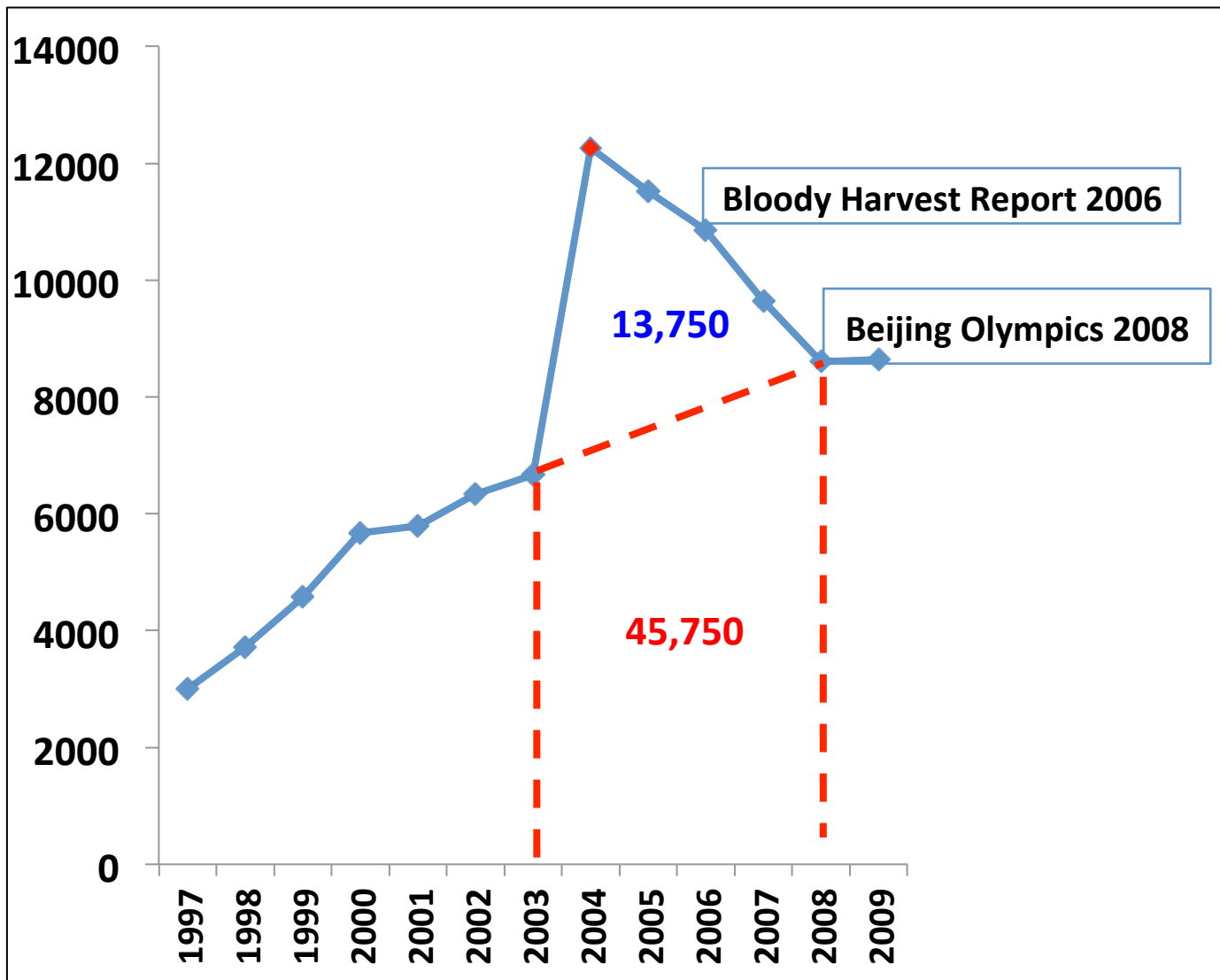
The number of execution cannot explain the huge increase in transplantation after 2003

Huang Jiefu:

>90% of transplanted organs are obtained from executed prisoners



Transplant spike implies extra abundance of organs between 2003 and 2008



“**Transplant spike**”
between 2003 and
2008:
≈ 13,750 transplants

**Projected number of
transplants** between
2003 and 2008:
≈ 45,750 transplants

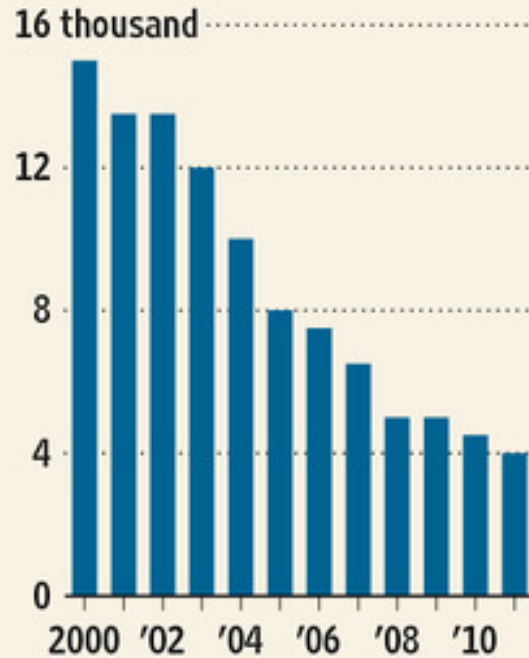
**Number of all
transplants** between
2003 and 2008:
Σ ≈ 59,500 transplants

*Note: Transplant
numbers based on
official numbers from
China

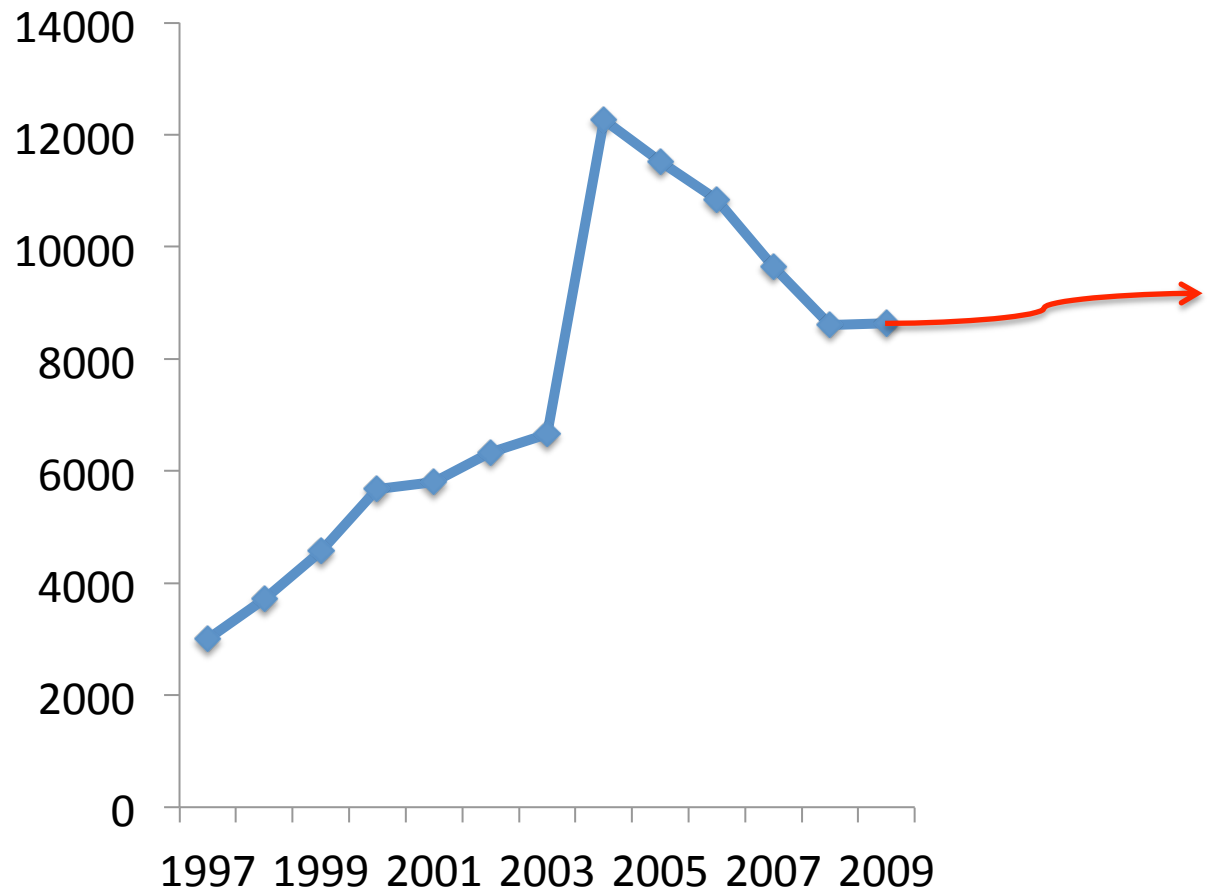
Execution numbers vs. transplant numbers in China

Death Row

Estimated number of executions in China



Source: Dui Hua Foundation
The Wall Street Journal



Average waiting time for live transplantation: **2 weeks** (Tianjin, 2005)

Oriental Organ Transplant Center (Tianjin No. 1 Central Hospital)

东方器官移植中心 — x

web.archive.org/web/20060207021805/http://www.ootc.net/

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Mobile :13802108661
常驻咨询主任: 薛主任
电话: 022-23626666

中心简介 ABOUT US

东方器官移植中心是目前亚洲最大规模的器官移植中心, 为中国临床肝移植发源地, 其前身为天津市第一中心医院器官移植学部和天津市器官移植中心.....



年份	数量
1998年前	9
1999年	33
2000年	111
2001年	240
2002年	512
2003年	801
2004年	1,601
2005年6月	1,601

用户名

密码

登陆 修改密码

医生注册 患者咨询

2005年1月至今共完成原位肝移植手术647例;本周完成12例;病人平均等待时间为两周。

焦点新闻 FOCUS


- [院内新闻] 2005年中心年终总结大会
- [学术交流] 天津第一中心医院移植外科研究基金申请书
- [院内新闻] 沈中阳教授受邀老布什总统在京活动

<http://web.archive.org/web/20060104005517/http://www.ootc.net/default.aspx>

Average waiting time for live transplantation: **1 week** (Shanghai, 2005)

长征医院已成为华东 x

web.archive.org/web/20050210151434/www.transorgan.com/apply.asp

 第二军医大学长征医院
解放军器官移植研究所

肝移植申请

上海长征医院器官移植科是全军唯一的器官移植研究所，肝移植部为全国十大肝移植中心，每年完成130余例肝移植手术，现阶段我研究所肝移植从手术到出院住院费用大致为20万元，我院肝移植病人的平均等候供肝时间为一周。为了更好的服务于广大的肝病患者，我们设立了网上肝移植申请项目。

如果您或您的亲人需要做肝移植手术，请填写下列表格：

姓名： 年龄： 岁

性别： ☒ 男 ☐ 女 国籍：

患何种疾病需要肝移植：

治疗过程：

**Organ Transplant Institute of the
People's Liberation Army
(Shanghai Changzheng Hospital)**

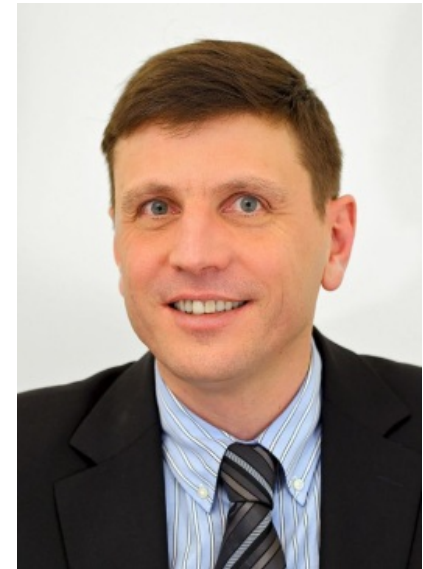
<http://web.archive.org/web/20050210151434/www.transorgan.com/apply.asp>

China's organ-on-demand system

“During my visit in Beijing in 2007, a hospital invited us to watch a **heart transplantation** operation.

The organizer asked us whether we would like to have the transplantation operation in the morning or in the afternoon.

This means that the donor would ‘die’, or be killed, at a given time, at the convenience of the visitors. I refused to participate”.



Franz Immer, M.D.
Chair of the Swiss
National Foundation
for organ donation
and transplantation

Heart transplantation scheduled 2 weeks in advance

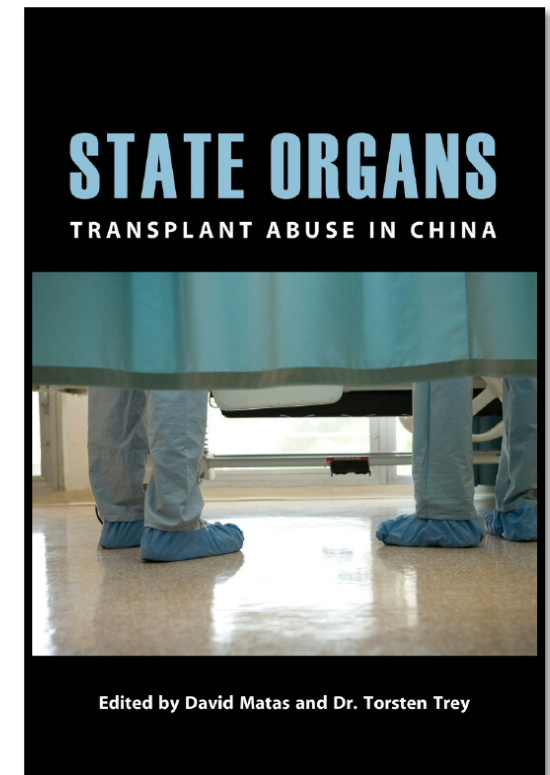


Prof. Jacob Lavee, M.D.

Director, Heart Transplantation Unit,
Sheba Medical Center, Tel Hashomer, Israel

"In 2005, I was approached one day by a patient of mine with an unusual message. This patient ... was told by his medical insurance company to **go to China in two weeks' time** as he was scheduled to undergo heart transplantation **on a specific date**. ... The patient, indeed, went to China and **underwent the operation on the exact date as promised ahead of time.**"

– Jacob Lavee, in »**State Organs**« , page 108.



2012

ISBN 978-1-927079-11-9

Israel's reaction: Israeli Organ Transplantation Law (2008)

Results:

- Transplant tourists ↓ from 155 (2006) to 26 (2011)
- Domestic organ donations ↑ by 68% (2011 vs 2010).

A Chinese liver for a Spanish patient

- **November 21, 2008: travel to China**
- **December 11, 2008: liver transplantation in Tianjin**
- **January 12, 2009: return to Spain with severe complications**
- **April 13, 2011: a new liver in Spain**
- **May 5, 2013: denounced by the National Transplant Organization in Spain (Criminal Code 2010)**



**Oscar Garay got a liver
for US\$ 130,000 at the
Tianjin No. 1 Central Hospital
(Oriental Organ Transplant Center)**

<http://www.lasprovincias.es/v/20130505/gente/higado-chino-oscar-20130505.html>

http://elpais.com/diario/2010/03/14/domingo/1268542353_850215.html

http://elpais.com/diario/2010/03/14/domingo/1268542354_850215.html

DAFOH Research

Case Study: Prisoner of conscience

Falun Gong practitioner: Mrs. D.F.

- Age: in 50s.
- No significant medical history
- Asylum in San Francisco, US
- Detained in August 2001 after going to Tiananmen Square to peacefully appeal.
- On 3rd day of detention taken into another facility where she was forced to have 3 large syringes of blood drawn, had X-rays, urine samples and ultrasound without any explanation.

Equivalent costs of these medical exams: ≈ US\$ 1,000



Forced medical exams: Pilot study on Falun Gong

- DAFOH researched reports written by Falun Gong practitioners on the main website **Minghui.org**.
 - Minghui publishes reports from Falun Gong practitioners who write about their persecution in Chinese detention and labor camps since 1999.
- In order to get a better understanding about the quantity of the medical exams, we reviewed reports and performed a search with “keywords” related to medical exams.

Research Results—Quantity

Number of **posted reports** on the Chinese Minghui.org website after searching for the following keywords:

Medical exam	(体检):	5,301
Medical exam, forced	(体检 强制):	1,465
Draw blood	(抽血):	1,159
Blood test, doctors	(验血 医生):	243
Draw blood, liver	(抽血 肝):	243
Draw blood, kidney	(抽血 肾):	214
CT, medical exam	(CT 体检):	94
Draw blood, heart EKG	(抽血 心电图):	89
Draw blood, x ray	(光 抽血):	48
Blood test, urine test	(验血 验尿):	33
CT, blood test	(CT 验血):	23

NOTE: one report is not equivalent to one person's case; some of the reports stated that ALL inmates of the labor camp underwent medical exams and blood tests.

Research Results — Conclusions

- We understand our research as a pilot study with limitations, but the data suggests that there is a systematic use of medical exams of different kinds applied to detained Falun Gong practitioners
- Medical exams experienced by Falun Gong practitioners while in Chinese detention are **not isolated occurrences**.
- The personal reports highlight the **discrepancy and implausible combination** of:
 - Adverse living conditions in detention:
 - force-feeding
 - torture
 - 17 hrs. forced labor/ per day
 - Extensive and costly medical exams
- **If the inmates are exploited, why waste resources for medical exams?**

Research Results — Historical Significance

It is **unprecedented in history** that labor camps would spend tens of thousands of dollars for medical exams on labor camp workers while they are exploited and live under adverse living conditions.

Forced surgical exploration: Case study

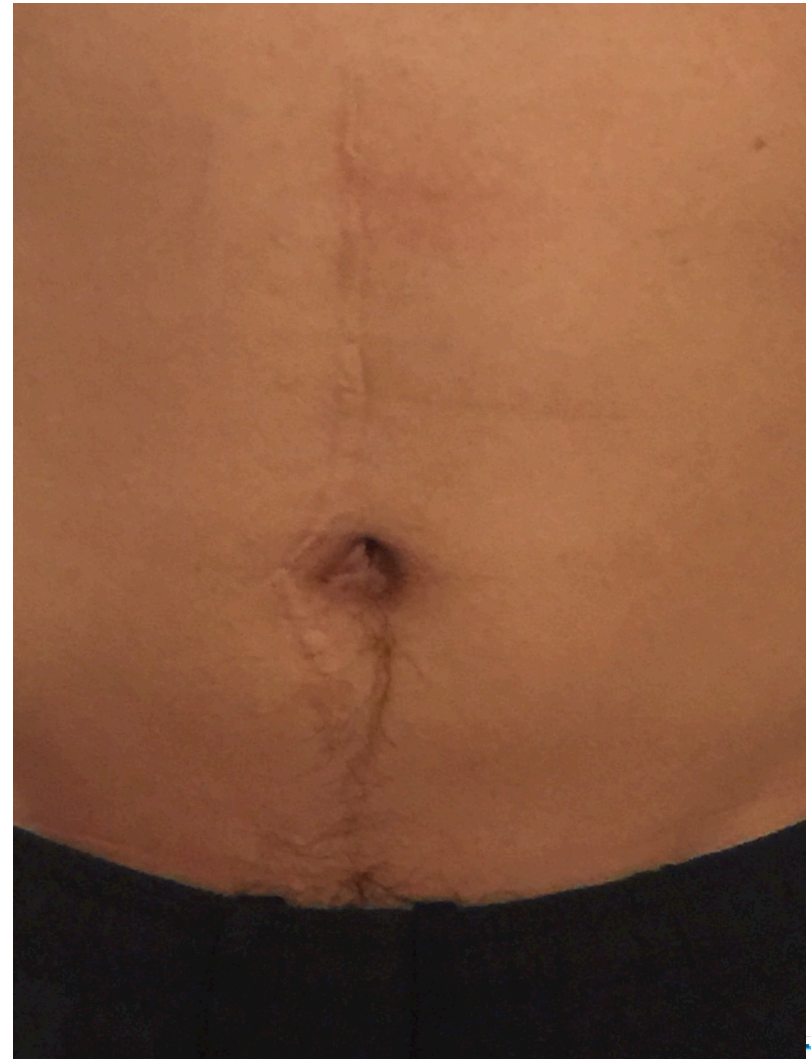
Case: Mr. J. L. (34 years); was forced to surgical exploration while in detention

History: Pertinent information includes

- Falun Gong practitioner from China
- Illegally detained in June 2007
- Went on hunger strike shortly after being detained
- Blood tests were taken at detention facility in July 2007 prior to surgery
- Forced surgery took place in July 2007 (no prior consent given)
- He was released on Sept 13, 2013

Physical Examination May 2015:

- no internal organ missing



Forced surgical exploration: Case study



Abdominal surgical scar;
stitched; ~18 cm

Falun Gong as Target for Organ Harvesting

1. Falun Gong as target for **forced medical exams** while in detention (pilot study)
2. Falun Gong as target for **forced surgical exploration** while in detention (case study)
3. Falun Gong as target for **forced organ harvesting** (investigations by Kilgour/Matas; Gutmann; Nowak)

➔ **Persecution of Falun Gong paved the path to forced organ harvesting**

Persecution of Falun Gong: Direct order by Jiang Zemin to harvest organs from Falun Gong practitioners

- On June 10, 1999, **the then party chief, Jiang Zemin** ordered the creation of the **“610 Office”**, an extrajudicial security apparatus, given the mandate to **“eradicate Falun Gong”**



Jiang Zemin

- The policy of **“610 Office”**:
“Defaming [Falun Gong practitioner’s] reputations, bankrupting them financially, and destroying them physically”

(Li Lanqing, Head of 610 Office, Great Hall of the People, November 30, 1999)



Li Lanqing

Wang Lijun



Wang Lijun

Police chief of Jinzhou City (2003-2008)

Police chief of Chongqing (2008-2012)

Several thousand people were killed for Wang Lijun's transplantation research



Wang Lijun

former Police Chief of Jinzhou City,
received an award in 2006 for his
research involving **several thousand
transplants (2004-2006)**

- In 2004, Wang founded the On-Site Psychology Research Center (OSPRC) of the Public Security Bureau of Jinzhou
- Title for research:
"Research on Organ Transplantation from Donors Subjected to Drug Injection"
- "The 'on-site research' is the result of **several thousand (execution) on-site cases**"
[from Wang's speech on receiving the award on Sept. 17, 2006]

<http://www.upholdjustice.org/node/214>

Executed death-row prisoners only contributed to a minority of the organs used for Wang's research



Wang Lijun
former Police Chief of Jinzhou City,
received an award in 2006 for his
research involving **several thousand
transplants (2004-2006)**

	Population	Executed prisoners (2004-2006)
China	1,347 million	6,250 (A.I.) (0.0005% / population)
Jinzhou	3 million	? (0.0005% => 14)

Many organs for Wang's transplantation research were seized from Falun Gong practitioners

Chen Rongshan:

collaboration partner of Wang, the urology chief physician of the

PLA 205 Hospital in Jinzhou City



Liaoxi Business Daily (May 23, 2006):

“The highest realm and pursuit of a military doctor.” The report praised Chen Rongshan for **having completed 568 cases of kidney transplants.**

Telephone recording:

Investigator: I'm from the Wang Lijun inter-departmental investigation team. ...

Investigator: Wang Lijun told us that **some organ donors were jailed Falun Gong practitioners. Is that true?**

Chen: **Those were allowed by the court.**

The orders for the forced organ harvesting from Falun Gong practitioners were issued by former CCP chief Jiang Zemin, and then executed by the Military and the Political and Legal Affairs Commission (PLAC) of the CCP

China's former security chief Zhou Yongkang implicated in organ harvesting



March 14, 2015

Phoenix Satellite Television

Huang Jiefu:

Director of the China Organ Donation
Committee and former Vice-Minister of Health

“Such a source, prisoner organs, it developed naturally into a system with all kinds of murky and difficult problems in it...

Zhou Yongkang is the ‘big tiger’;

Zhou Yongkang was the Secretary of the Central PLAC, a former member of the Politburo Standing Committee. Everyone knows this. ... **So as for where executed prisoner organs came from, isn't it very clear?”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wME1HfY8Smk>

Structure of the 'legal' system in China



- **2002-2007:**
Minister of Public Security
- **2007-2012:**
Secretary of the CCP Central PLAC
- **Dec 5, 2014:** expelled from the CCP;
“transferred to judicial organs”
- **April 3, 2015:** charged with bribery,
abuse of power and the intentional
disclosure of state secrets



Zhou Yongkang and the Political and Legal Affairs Commission (PLAC) are implicated in organ harvesting from Falun Gong practitioners

Person		Date	Answer on telephone
Li Changchun Politburo Standing Committee (2002-2012)	 李长春	April 17, 2012	“Zhou Yongkang is in charge of this [removing organs from Falun Gong practitioners] specifically. He knows it”.
Tang Junjie (Liaoning PLAC) (2000-2011)	 唐俊杰	April 13, 2012	“I was asked to take care of this task [removing organs from Falun Gong practitioners for transplantation]. ... It was considered a positive thing ”.
Wei Jianrong (Central PLAC) (1994-2010)	 魏建荣	Sep 26, 2008	“This thing [organ harvesting from the jailed Falun Gong practitioners] happened a long time ago”.

<http://www.upholdjustice.org/node/216>

Telephone investigations on harvest organs from Falun Gong practitioners

Person		Date	Answer on telephone
Bai Shuzhong Minister of Health of the PLA General Logistics Department (1998-2004)		September 2014 ^[1]	“It was Chairman Jiang... There was an order, a sort of instruction... I remember, because back then, after Chairman Jiang issued the order, we all did a lot of anti-Falun Gong work”.
Bo Xilai Governor of Liaoning (2001-2004) Minister of Commerce (2004-2007)		September 13, 2006 (visiting Germany) ^[2]	Bo Xilai admitted that Jiang Zemin had issued the order to harvest organs from living Falun Gong practitioners.
Liang Guanglie Minister of National Defense (2008-2013) Head of PLA General Staff Department (2002-2007)		May 2012 (visiting USA) ^[3]	“I am not in charge of it... I've heard of this... It was discussed [during the Central Military Commission meetings]”.

^[1] <http://www.upholdjustice.org/node/260>

^[3] <http://www.upholdjustice.org/node/270>

^[2] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hcOhIZE_iDQ

What needs to be done to stop the transplant abuse in China?

- **Demanding a statement from China about the use of prisoners of conscience as source for transplant organs**
- **Demanding an immediate end of using organs from any kind of prisoners, including prisoners of conscience**
- **Demanding an international investigation led by the UN, to clarify:**
 - the identity of all “donors” whose organs are entered into the computerized organ allocation system (COTRS)
 - the identity of every “donor” in Wang Lijun’s transplantation research
 - the organ source in the time period of the exponential surge in the number of transplants in China (e.g. 2004-2006)

Thank you!



The ultimate tragedy is not the oppression and cruelty by the bad people but the silence over that by the good people.

(Martin Luther King, Jr.)

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www.dafoh.org