

0061

ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION IN IRAN: THE PROCESS OF JUSTIFICATION AND PRACTICEEhsan Shamsi Gooshki^{1,2}

¹Medical Ethics and History of Medicine Research Center, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran, ²National Committee for Biomedical Research, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Tehran, Iran

Organ Transplantation has been the source of ethical concerns in 20th Century. Ethical aspects of Iran's Organ Transplantation system have been universally debated, especially because of controversies around compensated kidney transplantation from living unrelated donors. Although using the organs after brain death has been regulated through formal legal system by the country parliament, transplantation of organs from living donors lacks a national ratified regulation and is justified via a non-formal Fatwa-based religious pathway. In this paper we try to explain the process of justification for both models, the role of social pressure due to patients' needs, medical professionals as the first line of response, official legal system and religious institution as the main holder of justification authoritativeness. The paper also tries to clarify the real process of organ transplantation, as it is practiced in Iran, which may help those who are looking at this "Iranian Model" as critics or supporters.