



Government of Karnataka

Department of Collegiate Education

GOVERNMENT FIRST GRADE COLLEGE

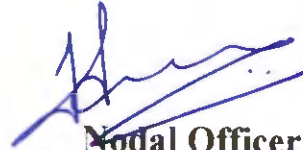
CHANNAPATNA – 562160, RAMANAGARA DISTRICT, KARNATAKA


Circular Youth Red Cross Wing

17-2-2018

Youth Red Cross Wing of the college is organising Eye, organ, blood, stem cell, bone marrow and cadaver donation awareness program on 23 Feb 2018 in the college premises. All the representatives of the class are hereby informed to participate the Programme. Youth Red Cross Wing also seeks the support of all teaching and non-teaching staff.

Thank You


Nodal Officer
Dr. HARISH M. G.
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Eye, organ, blood, stem cell, bone marrow and cadaver donation awareness program

According to a WHO report published in 2010, globally, 285 million people suffer from visual challenges. Of these 285 million, 246 million suffer from low vision while the remaining 39 million suffers from blindness. Of the total number of visually impaired and blind people in the world, 65% and 82% respectively, are over 50 years of age. In South East Asia which includes India, over 48 thousand people per million suffer from visual impairment, while over 43 thousand per million suffer from low visibility and over only 6 thousand per million suffer from blindness. Apart from a few reasons why certain conditions cannot be cured, most people suffer from curable ailments, especially those that can be cured with the help of donated eyes. In India nearly 2- 3 million people suffer from corneal blindness which could be cured through eye donation. Cornea is a clear tissue in our eyes, which allows light to pass through, enabling the brain in comprehending shapes and colours. A person is said to be suffering from corneal blindness when the cornea gets cloudy or obstructed in some other way. This reduces visibility. Now, this can be cured with the help of eye donation, which is an act of donating eye posthumously. It is completely altruistic in nature and done with larger goal of helping other either directly by enabling them to see or contributing to the development of new treatment plans by helping with scientific research. While scientists are trying to develop an artificial cornea, the solution for now remains eye transplant.


As of 2016, nearly 1.5 million people every year wait for corneal transplant, of which only 25,000 have any hope of actually undergoing the corneal transplant. Now, as we have established, there are several myths about eye donation, one being that the entire of the donor is gouged out, disfiguring the face of the deceased. This is not true, in most cases only the cornea of a person is removed and stored separately, which means that the person will not be disfigured and the sentiments of the loved ones of the disease would be taken care of.


Now, one may wonder, why organ donation, which includes eye donation is a noble cause. Well, here is a figure, at the current rate of donations, it will take India 60 years to fill the gap but correct knowledge can encourage more people to donate to a selfless cause. It is as simple as this, if a person is healthy enough on his/her death, and is a donor, his/her eyes may help two people see and may help heal more families. This is kind of like reaching a higher purpose, where even upon death, you are doing some good. It costs a donor nothing, but for someone receiving the gift of sight, it may mean everything. It is not a sacrifice on the part of the donor but for the receiver, the

donor becomes their hero. It may also be a comfort to the family of the donor, to know that some part of the donor continues to live on in the person who received the cornea.

In order to create awareness about importance of eye, organ, blood, stem cell, bone marrow and cadaver donation, the Youth Red Cross Wing of the College organized a speech by **Shri.M.K.Krishna – Chairperson(south zone), Eye Bank Association of India- Apex Body-Eye Banking** on 23 Feb 2018. More than 60 students, predominantly, all the class representatives attended the programme. The students vowed to be donors in the future. Mr. Bhoopendran who has donated blood for record 115 times also graced the occasion.






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