

ETHICS, JUSTICE AND THE SALE OF KIDNEYS FOR TRANSPLANTATION PURPOSES

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Summary

Living kidney donor transplantations are complex; add to that financial compensation to the donor and one enters an ethical maze. Debates on whether the buying and selling of kidneys should be allowed are mainly between utilitarians, deontologists and virtue ethicists as legal transplants are more common in the Western world. The pros and cons of each theory in relation to the sale of human organs are analysed, after which the foundational principles for all bio-ethical judgments; beneficence, non-maleficence, autonomy and justice are also scrutinised in seeking to justify the sale of human kidneys for transplantation purposes in a country with a human rights culture.

Keywords: kidney donors; transplantations; medical ethics; bio-ethical; judgments; beneficence.

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