

Abstract

Introduction: There are over 100,000 people waiting for an organ transplant. Even though 90% of Americans believe in organ donation, only about 60% are registered.¹ Access and negative feelings about the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) may inhibit individuals from registering to be an organ donor. Community pharmacies are easily accessible and are staffed by health care providers who are more knowledgeable about the need for organ donation.

Objective: This study aimed at initiating organ donor registration at a community pharmacy, evaluating perceptions toward the pharmacy being an alternate location for registration, and determining effectiveness of an infographic.

Methods: This is a cross-sectional study, that took place at two community pharmacies, in Troy and Springfield, IL. Information was gathered by verbal and written surveying of patients. Participants were asked registration status and whether they would like to register. An infographic was designed to educate individuals about the organ donation at one location, followed by a written survey to determine knowledge obtained and effectiveness of the infographic.

Results: The study found that 78% (108/138) of participants would participate in registration at a pharmacy. The study registered 2 of 18 participants (11%) who were not currently registered. Of the 32 respondents who completed the paper-based survey, majority (66%) agreed that the infographic increased their knowledge about organ donation and registration.

Conclusion: This pilot study suggests that patients were amenable to signing up for organ donor registrations at a community pharmacy, despite most of participants already being registered, two registrations were secured. The infographic designed for the study increased participant knowledge of organ donation, however there was limited success in getting participants to

complete the survey. This is the first step to more studies that focus on pharmacy as a site for organ donor registration.