

This response was submitted to the consultation held by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics on Give and take? Human bodies in medicine and research between April 2010 and July 2010. The views expressed are solely those of the respondent(s) and not those of the Council.

John Miller, Glasgow

Question 14

It is always right to try and meet demand, but if a donor is equal on the list to a non donor, then the donor who is willing in the event of death to give up their body parts for the benefit of other should get first

Question 16

I think giving money to be on the list is not right, even funeral expenses after death, but like blood donors, giving mugs, t-shirts and the like are acceptable.

Question 21

I think it should across the board be, if you do not opt out when in sound mind then it should be taken for granted that you opt in, this could be listed on a national website, GP's notes and/or hospital you attend's records.

Question 23

No, no, no. Unless the law is changed and then as I'm in favour of, if you do not opt out, then you are opting in by default, the opt out could be noted on the persons GP records, a national register or even the hospital you attend.

Question 24

Yes, there is, I have made my wishes clear as has my wife, we are both in favour of organ donation. We as parents will make decisions for our children until they are old enough to have an informed point of view, this may be while they are still under 16 years old, but old enough to say their own choice, as for someone who cannot make this decision for themselves, I think it is up to the legal person who makes these decisions, they should of conscience make the correct decision, (was the person of sound mind before and had a point of view on the matter or was the person from birth or childhood never able to make their own decisions).

Question 25

I would not like any of my family to veto my (of sound mind) decision to donate my organs, I think this is so wrong in every way , what's the point of the national register and me making wishes known only for someone to veto what i want. If the wishes are not known before death then the legal next of kin has the last say no or yes no matter what!!!!!!!!!!

Question 26

All of the above are still a human being, and as the family will want to bury or cremate this human being, then the whole body belongs to the legal next of kin, but should they donate any organs, and they think they are going to help save a life

by being transplanted, the hospital should not take them for medical study or anything else other than a transplant into another living person. If the family wants to give the body to science then the hospital would then own the body.

Question 27

No, no, no, no!! Sell body parts, next you will have poor students trying to get rid of a kidney here and a lung there to pay students loans, no no no no. What about blood, do we as blood donors hold the hospitals to ransom and demand payment for our blood (I'm 41 and have given 71 times in Scotland, which is every 12 weeks unlike England that is every 16 weeks).

Question 29

I do not know how this could work ???? If for some reason the donor only wanted body parts taken to go direct into another living person to prolong their life, then in principle this wish should be taken as fact and no parts taken for research, I think most donors do not think any of their body parts go to research or other study, they think all parts taken go to living persons so they can prolong the life of this person.

Question 30

I think no one should profit out of the kindness of us donors, this may be naive or ignorance. This includes the donor, in life or death. I do think that donors should jump the queue for transplants, I think this is reasonable, why should someone who is not willing to help others get a donor organ first and prolong their life when the person on the donor register dies, I think this is smart thinking, but sadly I think some people will add their name to the register (so if the time of need came they would be high on the donor register) only for their loved ones to refuse their organs in the event of their death .