

At the recent ESOT meeting in Budapest, we learned from our past president, Gil Thiel, that all living kidney donors in Switzerland are included in a registry. From this registry one can learn what unexpected events, if any, occurred and, even more importantly, which complications arose during procurement or after transplantation. Such a registry could be very helpful in informing potential living donors of the risk of morbidity, e.g., nerve injury, postdonation. The clinician would also be encouraged to try to prevent these complications.

I wonder, would it be possible to start such a registry at a European level (on a voluntary basis)? If so, should all procedures be registered or only complications? And how are we to define "complication"?

In the Netherlands, we perform  $\pm$  150 living donor kidney transplantations per year, i.e., 10 per million inhabitants. With 300 million inhabitants in Europe, this would mean – for kidneys alone – 3000 registrations per year, or 15 per working day. With the support of the European Union or the Council of Europe, and using the Swiss model as a blueprint, this might be an achievable enterprise.

Who supports this idea? Are there arguments against it?

---

G. Kootstra  
Department of Surgery  
University Hospital Maastricht  
P.O. Box 5800  
NL-6202 AZ Maastricht  
The Netherlands

**"In my opinion . . ."** is a new rubric in *Transplant International* and one that we hope will lead to lively exchanges of views regarding current issues of interest and controversy in the field of transplantation. Readers are encouraged both to present their opinions and to respond to those published in each issue of the journal. When sending us your contribution, please indicate that you would like it to be included in **"In my opinion . . ."**.