

Why are Living Kidney Donors Declined? A Single Center Study of 985 Consecutive Donors

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INTRODUCTION

Living donor kidney transplantation is the best type of renal replacement therapy. However, large numbers of potential donors are declined due to various reasons. The aim of this study is to define and quantify the reasons for declining potential living kidney donors (LKDs).

METHODS

All potential LKDs referred to our center between September 2008 to December 2013 were reviewed. Data were collected from electronic database.

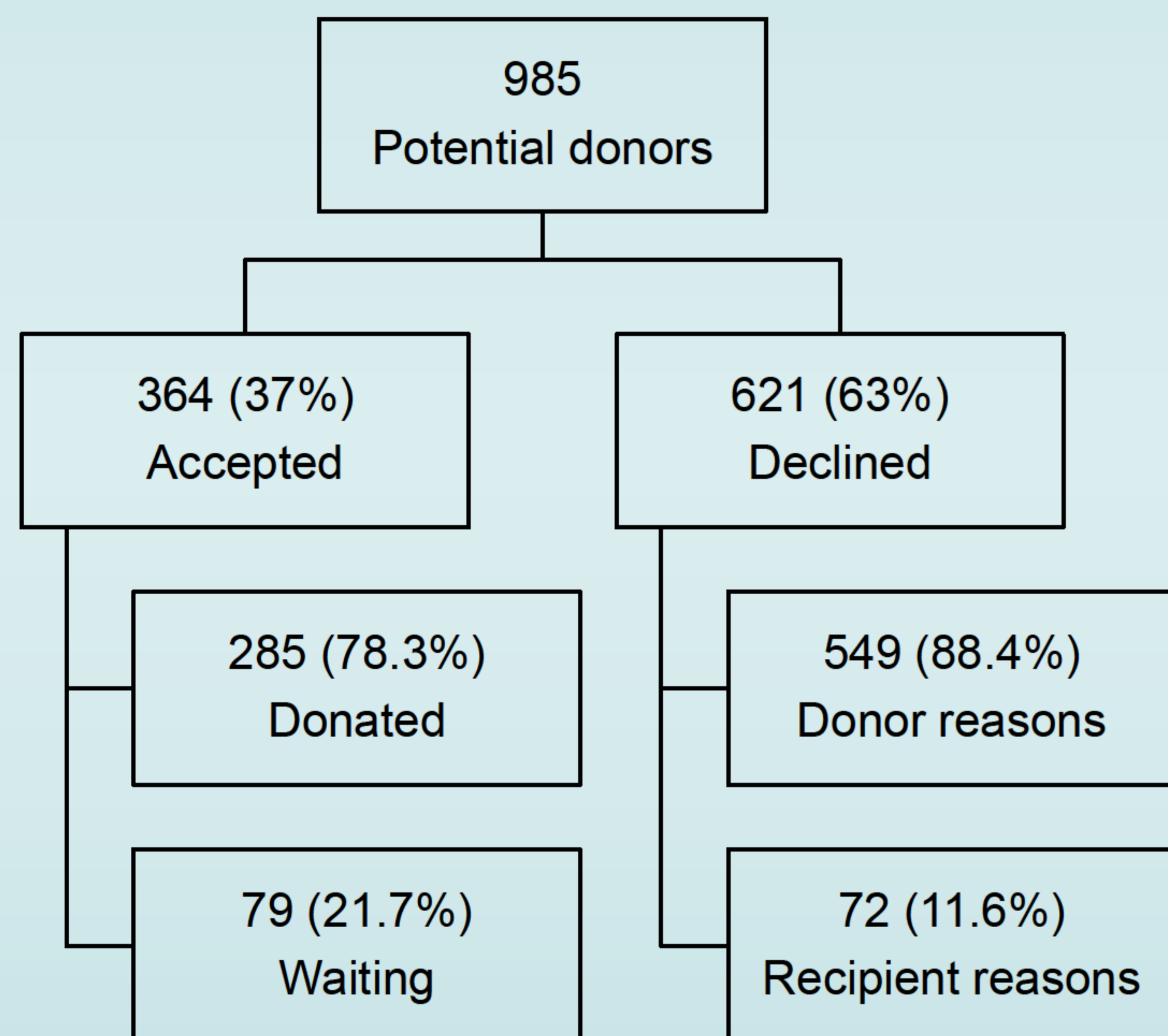


Figure - 1: Outcome of referred donors.

Donor related reasons	Number (%)
Medical contraindication	227 (41.3%)
Withdrawal	199 (36.3%)
Immunological barriers	75 (13.6%)
Psychological contraindication	13 (2.4%)
Others	35 (6.4%)
Total	549 (100%)

Table - 1: Donor related reasons for decline.

RESULTS

985 potential donors were referred. Average age 32 years (18 - 65 years), male to female ratio 3:1, and 97.2% were Saudis. 364 (37%) were approved as donors, of whom 285 have already proceeded to successful donation. Living kidney donation did not proceed in 621 (63%): 549 (88.4%) due to donor related, and 72 (11.6%) due to recipient related reasons (Figure - 1).

Table - 1 shows the donor related reasons for declining donation, while the medical reasons for declining LKDs are detailed in table - 2.

Medical contraindication	Number (%)
High blood glucose	48 (21.1%)
Proteinuria	31 (13.7%)
High blood pressure	27 (11.8%)
Obesity	19 (8.4%)
Infections	16 (7.1%)
Renal stones	14 (6.2%)
Hematuria	8 (3.6%)
Low GFR	3 (1.3%)
Tumors	3 (1.3%)
Sickle cell disease	3 (1.3%)
Combination	55 (24.2%)
Total	227 (100%)

Table - 2: List of medical contraindications for donation.

CONCLUSION

Despite the large number of potential LKDs, medically complex donors are increasing, and a significant proportion decided to withdraw at some point during the evaluation process. The latter highlights the needs to increase public awareness about living donation, to do more careful initial screening, and to provide continuous support for potential LKDs. Further study of the reasons behind withdrawal is required.