

Donors who regret nephrectomy

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Introduction

We have previously shown that kidney donors reported better quality of life than a general population sample.

Methods

As part of our survey, previous donors were asked if they would have donated again if they could reconsider. There were five possible answers: absolutely yes, probably yes, don't know, probably not and absolutely not. The last three responses were interpreted as regret towards donation and were combined into one variable. Frequencies of regret were assessed for all combinations of donor-recipient relationships. Moreover, those donating to minors below the age of sixteen were evaluated separately.

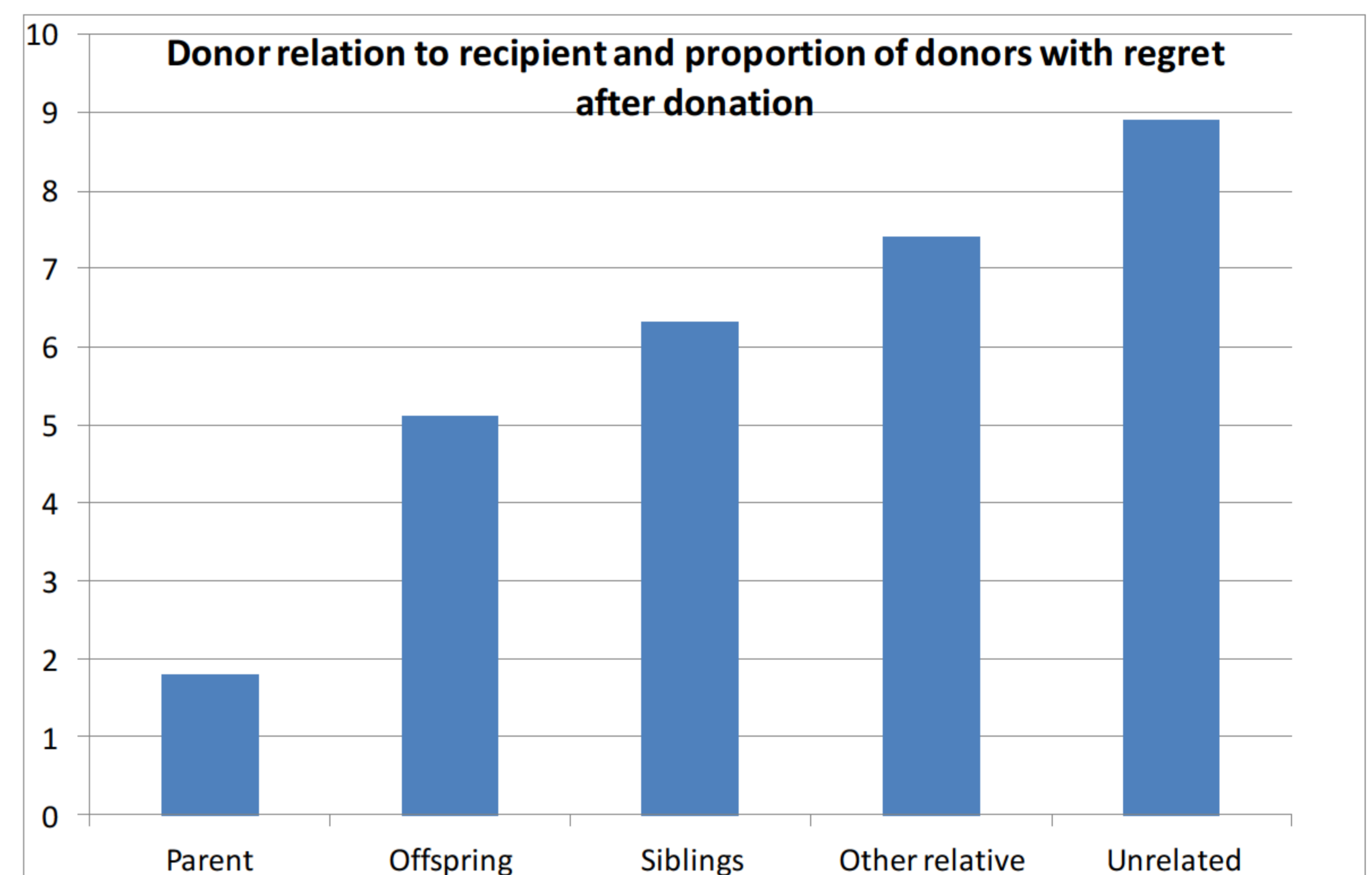
Results

Overall, 1501 donors responded. Of these, five per cent regretted donation. In subgroup analyses, the frequencies of donors regretting differed by familial relation:

Of 433 parents donating to offspring above 16 years of age, 1.8% regretted, while among offspring who donated to parents (n=136) 5.1% regretted. The corresponding figure was 6.3% for siblings (n=592) and 7.4% for other relatives (n=68).

Donors giving a kidney to a unrelated recipients (n=270) regretted the most, 8.9%.

Regardless of relationship, those donating to a minor (n=102) did not have regrets.



Conclusion

Proportion of donors regretting donation increases with familial distance to the recipient.

Donors to unrelated recipients regret the most.

Donation to a minor is universally not regretted.

