

Investigation Recording 2019-001

Date: February 21, 2019 (+86-57455836149)

Subject(s): Doctor, Liver Transplant, East Division, Ningbo Medical Center LiHuili Hospital

Translation

Doctor: Hello?

Investigator: Hello, hello. Is this Ningbo City.....

Doctor: Hello?

Investigator: Hello, is this Li Huili Hospital in Ningbo?

Doctor: East Division of Ningbo Medical Center LiHuili Hospital, not Li Huili Hospital.

Investigator: Who am I speaking to?

Doctor: Hepatobiliary Surgery at East Division of Ningbo Medical Center LiHuili Hospital.

Investigator: Hepatobiliary, that is what I'm trying to contact. Well, I'm calling from Qingtian. I have, eh, a friend, a relative of mine, who wants to have a liver transplant. I wonder how long he needs to wait if he wants the surgery done in your hospital?

Doctor: How long? It depends.

Investigator: About how long? Can you give me an estimate on the wait, approximately?

Doctor: Ah, what's his blood type?

Investigator: Blood type B.

Doctor: Type B?

Investigator: Ah.

Doctor: Ah, generally speaking, there are relatively more B-type patients in our waiting list. So it may take two to three months.

Investigator: Two to three months! What would be the shortest wait time? Is it possible to get it done a little sooner?

Doctor: The shortest one—it depends on the liver sources. If you are determined and lucky, if there is a suitable liver available, it may take a few weeks for blood type B if you are near the front in the queue. But if you're not in a critical condition and unlucky, then you have to wait longer since there are many blood type-B patients on our waiting list.

Investigator: As I know, LiHuili Hospital is the second largest in the province in terms of liver transplants. It is ranked second, right?

Doctor: Ah, yeah, that's right.

Investigator: I have inquired about the International Hospital and we don't have to wait for that long there. As they're the number one in the province, but the fee is relatively higher. They are ranked first in Zhejiang, and you are ranked second. Is the International Hospital ranked first as well? Have they done more cases than you?

Doctor: Which hospital are you talking about? Is it in Zhejiang province? Which, which hospital? Shulan Hospital?

Investigator: Ah, Shulan Hospital. Is it ranked first in the province?

Doctor: Oh, that is Shulan Hospital. Yeah, yeah, that's Shulan Hospital. As you know, Academician Zheng, Zheng Shusen, and two other academicians established the hospital as they are specialized in liver transplantation. They surely have done many cases. But their fees are relatively higher, and they're indeed.

Investigator: Yes, they're very expensive. You said that they're ranked first in Zhejiang. Then they later started to claim that they were number one across the country. But if you check the website of Shanghai Renji Hospital, you'll find that they do 800 liver transplants each year. If Renji is number one, I should say, then you must have done more. They (Shulan) said, "we're number one in the province." Shulan is first in the province. If so, as you are second, you must have done quite a lot each year as well—in the range of several hundred?

Doctor: Well, basically, in general, for those specific details, if you want to know more, you'd better call us again and ask our director, because for the detailed information, my knowledge is rather limited. We cannot make it clear over the phone, okay?

Investigator: What's the name of your director? I'll ask him.

Doctor: Lu Caide, Lu Caide, Lu Caide, he comes to the outpatient clinic on Wednesday mornings. If you want to come and consult him, you can make an appointment with Director Lu Caide on Wednesday mornings and ask him, okay?

Investigator: Lu Caide, you have his.....

Doctor: Lu as in "Dalu", but I don't have his cell number.

Investigator: You don't?

Doctor: No, I don't. That's right. Please come to the clinic to consult him at our East Division on Wednesday mornings, alright?

Investigator: I'm just asking and want to know, whether you are still doing many liver transplants, relatively a lot?

Doctor: Ah, yeah, relatively speaking, we do a lot, because there are not many hospitals which can still operate liver transplant surgeries now!

Investigator: So how many hospitals in our province can do liver transplants?

Doctor: For liver transplants, only these two in Hangzhou and Ningbo.

Investigator: Oh, oh, oh, only the Zhejiang University Hospital and the International Shulan Hospital?

Doctor: Oh, that's right. Only these two places. Okay.

Investigator: Hi, Doctor, may I ask you how much the cost is? How much is it to have a liver transplant surgery?

Doctor: As for the cost, basically, it's around 400,000 yuan, yeah, 400,000 yuan or so.

Investigator: Oh, okay, okay, good, thank you, alright.

Doctor: Good, bye.

Investigator: Goodbye.