The use of Culturally Sensitive Education on organ donation and its impact on attitudes and willingness to donate organs

James Winters

Abstract
In regards to transplantation, ethnic minorities are disproportionately affected by the donor shortage. The high morbidity rates and decreased willingness to donate commonplace among these demographics has created a devastating imbalance. Increasing minority donor presence will make the allocation process more favorable for minority candidates. The current study entailed the provision of a culturally sensitive educational intervention to sixty-five (n=65) students at the University of Southern Mississippi. Surveys were administered pre/post intervention to assess knowledge and attitudes towards donation. Pre-intervention data reflected findings from prior research, post-intervention data showed that the intervention was able to mitigate these findings and that it was more effective in minorities, lamenting the need for more culturally specific approaches in the efforts to increase donor presence.