

Short Statement to the China Tribunal April 7, 2019
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I am a physician, board certified in Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine in the USA and Australia, currently working full time as a Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences and Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney. Brief CV is attached. My research, clinical, and teaching career has focused on the integration of exercise and nutrition into health care for the prevention and treatment of chronic disease and disability in older adults.

I became involved in the issue of organ harvesting after hearing data presented by Mr. David Matas at The Transplantation Society meeting in Sydney in 2008. My impetus was to bring awareness of this unethical medical practice to my colleagues in the Western medical community. Coincidentally, I discovered that the orchestrator of the entire transplant system in China and the then Assistant Minister for Health in China, Dr. Huang Jiefu, was actually trained at the University of Sydney and was still an honorary professor at our institution. Joining with colleagues in ethics, law and medicine internationally, we began efforts to investigate and to expose his personal involvement in the conduct, design and proliferation of unethical transplants, and to detail the extent of the organ harvesting of prisoners of conscience to the medical community, our academic institutions, editors of medical journals, as well as the broader public.

These efforts of myself and colleagues have led to, among other things:

- The University of Sydney not renewing the Honorary Professorship of Huang Jiefu in 2014 for a further 3-yr appointment
- a number of academic publications (shown below), including the most recent article in BMJ in which our research indicated that in 445 papers published in English-language transplant journals, in which 85,477 transplantation procedures were described between the years 2000 and 2017, and 84% of the papers did not provide evidence or a statement of ethical organ procurement. Only 33 papers explicitly stated that they did not use organs from executed prisoners, and in 19/33 cases, this was clearly a falsehood, as the transplants were performed prior to 2010, when *all* organs, by China's own admission, were sourced from executed prisoners.
- the establishment of an interest group among parliamentarians in Australia
- public forums and media coverage
- petitions to local government as well as to the UN, and
- the beginnings of legislative actions to hopefully ultimately bar transplant tourism to China and penalize any involvement in unethical procurement or receipt of organs harvested without consent or under coercion, with extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Academic publications on organ harvesting

1. Rogers, W., Robertson, M., Ballantyne, A. et al. 2019. Compliance with ethical standards in the reporting of donor sources and ethics review in peer-reviewed publications involving organ transplantation in China: A scoping review. *BMJ Open* 9.
2. Rogers, W., Fiatarone Singh, M.A. and Lavee, J. 2017. Papers based on data concerning organs from executed prisoners should not be published. *Liver International* 37 769-769.
3. Rogers, W., Fiatarone Singh, M.A. and Lavee, J. 2017. Papers based on data concerning organs from executed prisoners should not be published: Response to Zheng and Yan. *Liver International* 37 771-772.
4. Trey, T., Sharif, A., Schwarz, A. et al. 2016. Transplant Medicine in China: Need for Transparency and International Scrutiny Remains. *American Journal Of Transplantation* 1-6.
5. Sharif, A., Trey, T., Schwarz, A. et al. 2016. Truth and Transparency. *American Journal Of Transplantation* 2016 1-2.
6. Rogers, W., Trey, T., Fiatarone Singh, M.A. et al. 2016. Smoke and mirrors: unanswered questions and misleading statements obscure the truth about organ sources in China. *Journal of Medical Ethics* 42 552-553.
7. Trey, T., Sharif, A., Fiatarone Singh, M.A. et al. 2015. Organ transplantation in China: concerns remain. *The Lancet* 385 854-854.
8. Sharif, A., Fiatarone Singh, M.A., Trey, T. et al. 2014. Organ procurement from executed prisoners in China. *American Journal Of Transplantation* 14 2246-2252.
9. Lavee, J., Fiatarone Singh, M.A., Trey, T. et al. 2014. The uninvestigated factor behind the negative attitudes toward cadaveric organ donation in China. *Transplantation* 98 e78-e79.
10. Fiatarone Singh, M.A. 2012. *The Mission of Medicine*. Woodstock, Canada: Seraphim Editions.
11. Trey, T., Halpern, A. and Fiatarone Singh, M.A. 2011. Organ transplantation and regulation in China. *JAMA - Journal of the American Medical Association* 306 1863-1864.