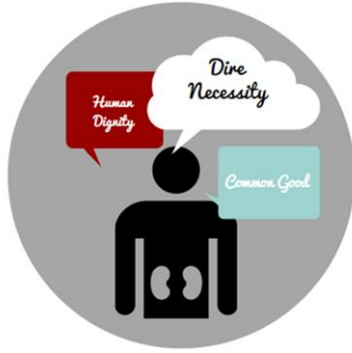




A Religiously Tailored Workshop on Organ Donation for Mosque Communities

Replication Guide



INITIATIVE ON
ISLAM AND MEDICINE

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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About this Manual

This manual serves as a guide to replicating a religiously-tailored, peer-led, educational workshop within mosque communities on living organ donation.

How to Use this Manual

This manual details the procedures and materials required to carry out this workshop: (i) training peer educators to lead discussion groups during the workshop and (ii) conducting the workshop itself.

Necessary Requisite Knowledge

One of the central aspects of these workshops is that they are mosque-based. Consequently, workshop presenters and peer-educators should ideally have both a working knowledge and expertise in the subject matter of the workshops, and should also be religiously and ethically concordant with target mosque community members. In order to facilitate this, we have included our training procedure for peer educators in this guide.

Updating Materials

Before delivery of a peer education training or community workshop, it is recommended that updates be made to any links, resources, statistics that may be outdated, irrelevant, or not working. Additionally, our workshop was created using data on general community knowledge gaps, and you may need to adapt it to fit your specific community.

Citation

This replication guide should be cited when conducting the program, a citation for the entire program is noted below. If presenters use excerpts from sessions, please cite the specific session title as well.

Citation

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Background Information

Organ transplantation: the disparity between supply and demand

The disparity between supply and demand for life-saving and/or life-sustaining organs is well-known and contributes to over 140 people on the waiting list per week dying in the United States.^[1] The situation for ethnic and racial minorities is even more dire as, not only do biological factors make finding appropriate matches more difficult, organ donors rarely come from such backgrounds.^[2]

Muslims and organ transplantation

Many studies note that Muslims share health beliefs, values, and experiences that impact healthcare behaviors across ethnic and racial lines.^[3-5] In addition to sharing a theocentric framework of health and disease, many Muslims look to Islamic ethico-legal guidelines to decide which medical treatments and procedures are permissible. There is a difference of opinion regarding the permissibility of organ donation within Islamic law and among Muslim scholars. This difference of opinion can lead to negative attitudes surrounding the subject and contributes to knowledge gaps within Muslim communities.

Our project

Our multi-year project consisted of four phases (see Figure 1). In phase one, we began by seeking to define the most salient knowledge gaps in Muslim communities and empirically studied the attitudes of multiple Muslim communities towards organ donation. In phase two, we conducted a normative analysis of the Islamic ethico-legal perspectives on organ donation in consultation with the Fiqh Council of North America (FCNA). The information from phase one and two was mobilized towards the design of a religiously-tailored, peer-led group education workshop conducted within mosque communities in phase three. Phase four consisted of the public dissemination of our project and includes this replication guide¹.

¹ For more detailed information on the different stages of our project, please see the publications listed in Figure 2.

Figure 1: Developing an evidence-based model to impact Muslim attitudes toward organ donation

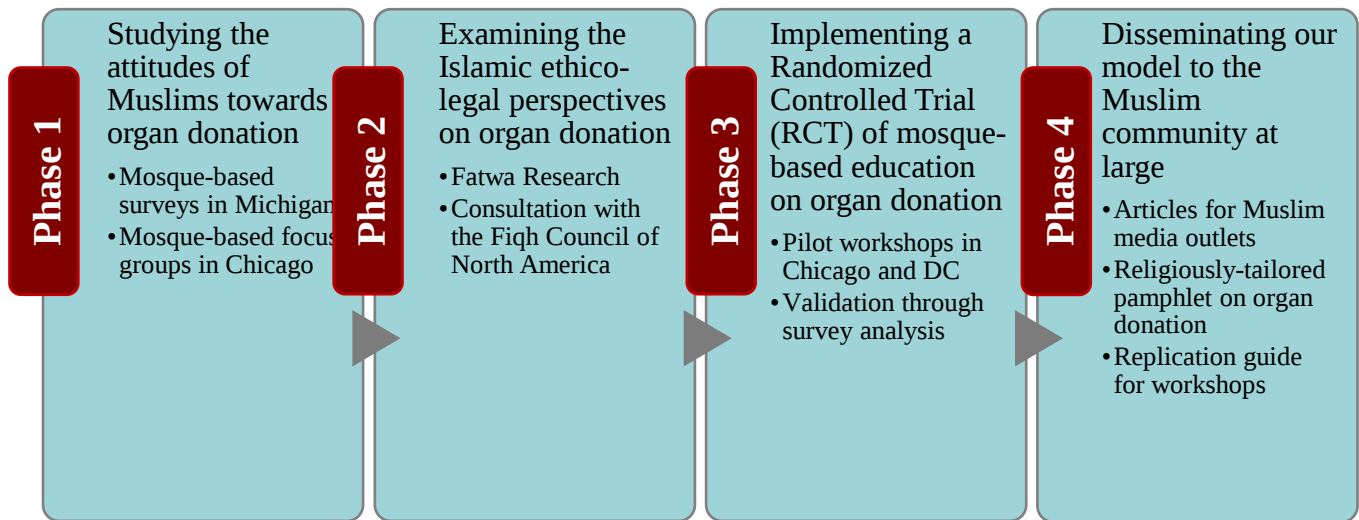


Figure 2: Published outputs from our multi-year project



Preparing for a Workshop in your Mosque

While there is a lot that goes into putting on this workshop, much of the work has already been done and can be found within this guide. This section provides a step by step guide to host this workshop at your mosque.

Box 1: An overview of the required personnel

1. A project team (you!+help) to manage and organize the workshop
2. Peer educators to guide group discussions
3. Content experts to deliver talks on the religious and biomedical aspects of organ donation
4. Mosque staff to help reserve a space for the workshop, help set up the room, and for logistical support

Step 1: Forming community partnership and relationships with mosque leaders

Individuals attempting to conduct these workshops should ideally be part of—or find a way to engage meaningfully—with that particular mosque community. Having and fostering these relationships allows the workshop to be optimally effective. We suggest you start with having conversations with imams and community members to discuss how this workshop might best be implemented.

Step 2: Obtaining approval and buy-in

You must obtain the approval of all parties involved with hosting and delivering the workshop. This includes mosque leadership, volunteers, other groups whose space or time you may be using, and the individuals that will be assisting with logistical and recruitment support.

Step 3: Recruiting Content Experts

For this workshop you will need to recruit lecturers who can present on the respective topics; in order to accurately replicate our program, all three of the topics must be covered.²

Table 1: Lecture topics and the required content experts

	Topic	
1.	Organ donation statistics, practices, and processes within your state and country	Requisite Knowledge: This individual should have an understanding of how the processes of living and deceased donation work, the statistics on organ donation, and the specific transplantation legislation in your state (or country)
		Possible Lecturers: • A representative from an organ procurement organization (OPO) • A donor advocate from a transplantation center (+/- a

² You may also want to preview our lectures or show some clips during the workshop of our content experts speaking. These are linked in our website.

		donor/donor's family)
2.	Ethico-Legal (<i>fiqhi</i>) perspectives on living organ donation and their scriptural rationale	Requisite Knowledge: This individual should be well-versed in the juridical council rulings from IOMS, IFA, as well as local <i>fatawa</i> from FCNA and prominent scholars in your region. Optionally, one might want to cover aspects of deceased donation as well. Possible Lecturers: • A scholar of <i>fiqh</i>
3.	Biomedical aspects of organ donation	Requisite Knowledge: This individual should be well-versed in the biomedical aspects of transplantation such as the medical benefits, risks, and recovery of living donation Possible Lecturers: • A transplant surgeon • A donor advocate
4.	Peer educator led discussions	• See sample peer educator training manual

Step 4: Recruiting Peer Educators

Peer Educators are members of the community and will be taught to facilitate group discussions (in this case: on the religious and biomedical aspects of organ donation) in a training session held prior to the community workshop.

Box 2: Who are peer educators?

- Community members
- Trained in relevant health information and communication skills (see step 5)
- They are not: medical content experts or professional counselors

Step 5: Training Peer Educators

Peer educators must be trained in the relevant health information and communication skills before the workshop takes place. These two skills will allow them to participate in the community workshop as facilitators for guided group discussions. Visit our website to download detailed information on the peer educator training.

Box 3: Why are peer educators important?

- To establish a safe, respectful environment where participants feel free to express their views
- To help participants explore ambivalence about issues related to organ donation

Step 6: Advertising within the Community

Set a date for your workshop together with your team, peer educators and lecturers. Once the date is set, you can establish a good marketing strategy to promote your workshop.

Advertising should be done in accordance with what works and is commonly practiced within the community. This may include—but is not limited to—announcements during Friday prayers, fliers, social media, and/or notices in weekly emails.

A Check-List for Hosting the Workshop

Once you have completed all the steps in preparation for the workshop you are ready to host it. To prepare for the day we have included a basic logistical checklist that may be helpful. Each of these can be adapted on a case-by-case basis.

Logistical Preparation Checklist

☐	Order food/buy snacks for the attendees
☐	Arrange for coffee and tea
☐	Check-in with mosque staff to coordinate space set-up
☐	Print and assemble course books (these can be downloaded on our webpage)
☐	Print extra materials as required, these may include the FCNA fatwa or our brochure (these can be downloaded on our webpage)
☐	Make sure all audio-visual technology works, e.g. have a reliable internet connection, working monitors, and/or HDMI cables
☐	Optional: Print program evaluations You may consider conducting program evaluations using interviews, focus groups, or surveys.³ Informal feedback may also be sought from class participants or instructors in order to refine your workshop.

³ If you would like our help in evaluating the workshop (for example through validated surveys), or our overall help and expertise in running this workshop, please contact us via e-mail at initiative.islam.medicine@gmail.com. We would be happy to help.

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