

Quotes from the sharia delivered by Saudi clerics in 1988 as found on the site onislam.net concerning organ donation and transplantation

With regard to definition:

First: What is meant here by 'organ' is any part of a person, be it tissues, cells, blood and so on [...].

Second: The use or benefit that is under discussion is a benefit that is dictated by necessity in order to keep the beneficiary alive or to keep some essential or basic function of his body working, [...].

Third: These kinds of benefit or use are divided into three categories:

- a) Transplant of organ from a living person
- b) Transplant of organ from a dead person
- c) Transplant from/of a fetus

[...]

With regard to Shari`ah rulings:

1. It is permissible to transplant an organ from one place in a person's body to another place in the same body, but attention must be paid to ensuring that the expected benefits outweigh any possible harm; that is subject to the condition that this is done to replace a lost organ or body part, or to restore its regular shape or function, or to correct a fault or remove a deformity that is causing the person psychological or physical harm.
2. It is permissible to transplant an organ from the body of one person to another if it is an organ that renews itself automatically, such as blood and skin. [...]
4. It is haram to transplant an organ on which life depends, such as transplanting the heart from a living person to another person.
6. It is permissible to transplant an organ from a dead person to a living person whose life or basic essential functions depend on that organ, subject to the condition that permission be given by the deceased before his death, or by his heirs after his death. [...]
7. It should be noted that the agreement on the permissibility of organ transplants explained above is subject to the condition that this is not done by selling the organs, because it is not permissible to subject human organs to sale under any circumstances.

The full text of this decision can be consulted @ <http://tinyurl.com/mbrxoz8>

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