Volume 1, Issue 2, 2018, PP: 11-13



# The Human Being is the One who Gives, The Receiver Lives from His Donation

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The contribution "The Human Being is the One Who Gives, The Receiver Lives From His Donation" (Fig.1, Fig.2) is the exemplification of the efforts spent freely by the whole medical and nursing staff of U.O.S. of "Dialysis of Pontedera", Pisa. The book gathers pictures and realproofs of the little "miracle" achieved by the staff of the section of Pontedera during the last "GiornataMondiale del Rene 2017" ("World kidney day 2017"), when they chose to combine with the "festadelledonazioni" ("celebration of donations").

In line with the "Italian Society of Nephrology", which commits daily to raise awareness the entire public opinion about the donations, the U.O.S of "Dialysis of Pontedera" presented the profect: "Segniparticolaridonatore di organi" ("Distinguish marks organ donor"), which gives the possibility to become organ donor by renewing the identity card at the civil registry office.

#### U.O.S. di DIALISI PONTEDERA



L'ESSERE E' COLUI CHE DA'
DALLA SUA DONAZIONE
VIVE
CHI RICEVE



Fig 1. Cover of the book "Being is the one who gives, from whom he receives his living lives", July 2017.

Painting of Eros Carpita.

As for other initiatives which aims at encouraging the culture of donation of organs, bloods and tissues, in that day there was the participation of a great number of actors as: AVO ("Associazioneviteonlus") representants, ANED, AIDO, ADISCO association. At the heart of the day there was the story of the donations, told by the real voice of the patients, which have faced with a path of dialysis and have come back to life thanks to the kidney transplant, even thanks to the presence of a lawyer who has clarified the legal problems about donations. Very pleasant moments didn't miss, due to the presence of musical artists, the exhibition of artistic works of a dialysis-dependent painter and a sculptor with common thread the topic of donation.

The peculiarity of the initiative is the extraordinary enthusiasm of the whole staff of the section (Fig. 3) and of the person who proclaimed himself the "hidden director", that is the Dr. Battista Catania, who has been carrying on for a long time an initiative which should be taken as an example from the Italian nephrological community, based on the belief that the meeting among who gives, who takes and who could give is fundamental to build a different future. A future where the population that has lived or still lives the experience of dialysis will be able to leave the microcosm and to become itself a proof of real life.

I want to highlight that this book, of which the only sponsor is CRAL Ugo del Rosso, doesn't run for profit e represents a means of reaching the high school students and sensitize from the start to the donor of organs, blood, tissues and spare time.

The book will be divulged free of charge to doctors and nurses. It is possible to ask for further information to the "hidden director" of this deserving and model initiative, the Dr. Battista Catania of UOS Dialisi in Via Roma at Pontedera (Pisa) and here the link (http://

#### The Human Being is the One who Gives, The Receiver Livesfrom His Donation

www.fondazioneitalianadelrene.org/gli-opuscolidella-fir/) by means of which it is possible to download the book.

I want to conclude with some words which communicate entirely the idea of placing the patient "in the middle" of the cure record, the person with all his complexity, that is the main goal of our national health service.

## A Path to gether: Know each Other to Heal each Other

"When you are forced to take a narrow, dirt, uphill climb, even if it dark, with many mysteries behind the corner... You wish you had someone, to be less afraid, to be tough, to know, to ask... Not to be alone".

Sed Sed

**Fig 2.** Back cover of the book, paiting "La rinascita" of Eros Carpita

The advance chronic kidney disease, after the initial confusion and the caused sense of rebelliousness, must be bear even knowing that "nothing will ever be the same". The idea to start over frightens everyone, even because the survival in the next days not always will correspond with an improvement of the quality of life. Health disorders, in time, will be more serious;

the feeling of uncertainty for the future is still present; the changes of the everyday life (in the professional, social and family aspects) make the physical and mental balance of everyone more unstable.

A replacement kidney therapy moves the lifethreatening but imposes a great effort for daily adjustments: it is necessary to fight for a "new normality" and to find a new balance.

In these situations, the risk to feel inadequate, to isolate yourself, to lose the courage to continue.

When a disease becomes chronic and serious, it needs demanding and extended therapies but most of all it imposes more intense and deepened relationships between healthcare professional and patient.



**Fig 3.** Staff of the UOS of Dialysis of Pontedera (Pisa)

We know that each patient is "unique" with brandnew qualities, so we want to know each other better to take care, that is to say build a relationship aimed at improving your life conditions, participating actively together promoting individual available resources ("to know, to be, to be able to").

This is an important moment of your life and probably you don't want to hear about your disease

### The Human Being is the One who Gives, The Receiver Lives from His Donation

but understand it and collaborate with us, it can help you feeling better, overtaking the everyday little difficulties.

As nephrological team, we will try to give you and your family help and support not to make you feel alone with your disease: we will be as a big little family, where a smile and a helping hand will never be missing. We believe, in fact, that dealing with health make you become better: take you out of yourself to watch at the others and at the world.

**Citation: Battista Catania.** The Human Being is the One who Gives, The Receiver Lives from His Donation. Archives of Nephrology. 2018; 1(2): 11-13.

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