



LECTURE ABSTRACT

“The Body Donation Program and its Interconnected Activities: Results of 14 Years of Experience”

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Despite its importance, the use of cadavers for the teaching and practice of anatomy faces difficulties in Brazil due to the lack of human bodies available for teaching. Thus, in Porto Alegre, at the Federal University of Health Sciences of Porto Alegre (UFCSA), one of the pioneers in Brazil, the Body Donation Program for Teaching and Research in Anatomy (PDC) was created in 2008. This program aims to clarify the general population about the possibility of donating the body for teaching, voluntarily, in life. From the PDC, donations of human bodies necessary to meet the demands of the anatomy laboratory were received, being used as a tool for the study of human anatomy by undergraduate students of health careers. In addition, based on the greater availability of bodies for teaching, an extension course has been held annually, where undergraduate students deepen their knowledge of human anatomy and produce real anatomical pieces for use in practical classes and to be exhibited in the Anatomy Museum, which is an annual and temporary exhibition, aimed at public school students. And, as a result of these activities, at the end of each year the Body Donor Tribute Ceremony is held, when the students have the opportunity to thank the families for the noble gesture of the donors. All these activities are interconnected and organized together in order to qualify the teaching of anatomy, in addition to enabling the use of this material for research and extension, demonstrating the good results of the Body Donation Program.

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