

## Living Kidney Transplant Project: Community Outreach

On Sunday 3rd December 2023, Jain and Hindu Organ Donation Alliance (JHOD) worked in partnership with Lohana Community North London (LCNL) a Medical Camp, where the importance of donating living kidneys was highlighted. This was the community outreach element of the LKTP led by the Royal Free Hospital and JHOD, funded by NHSBT. An audience of 200 people had the opportunity to listen to several talks on medical issues in the morning, including one on living kidney donation given by Kirit Modi, MBE, Chair of JHOD. In the afternoon, access to free medical check-ups and advice, as well as the opportunity to find out more about organ donation was available.

The JHOD stand was managed by Niyanta Shah, JHOD Co-ordinator, Rekha Parekh, Hindu and Jain Outreach Worker at the Royal Free and Purvi Shah, JHOD Steering Group member.



**Meenaben Jasani,**  
President of LCNL, said:

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**Kirit Modi, MBE,**  
Chair of JHOD,

A living kidney transplant recipient, spoke at the event and explained the innovative JHOD project at the Royal Free Hospital which provides one to one support to Hindu, Jain and Black patients. The support is provided by two outreach workers from the same ethnic minority background who use culturally appropriate leaflets and videos to raise awareness about living kidney donation among patients.



Questions from the audience

**Kirit Modi said:**

“It has been a pleasure to work with the LCNL in promoting living kidney donation at the excellent Medical Camp. I am most grateful to Meenaben Jasani, Prof Bhikhu Kotecha and the LCNL Executive Committee for their amazing support and we look forward to working with LCNL in the future. The partnership working between the Royal Free Hospital and JHOD in offering valuable one to one support to Hindu and Jain patients waiting for a kidney transplant by Rekha Parekh, the Outreach Worker employed by the Royal Free Hospital. I encourage Hindus and Jains in the UK to find out more about living kidney donation and transform the lives of loved family members and friends waiting for a kidney transplant.”

**Prof Bhikhu Kotecha,**

**Consultant ENT Surgeon, Executive Committee Member of LCNL  
and Convenor of 2023 LCNL Medical Camp added:**

“Raising awareness of organ donation in general is of huge importance as this is truly a gift of life. We were privileged to work with JHOD in enlightening the audience on the importance of living kidney donation at our Medical Camp.”

**Rekha Parekh,**

**Hindu/Jani Outreach worker at the Royal Free said:**

“The medial camp was well attended, and this gave me a good opportunity to speak in Gujarati to so many people one to one and able to answer their questions and provide them with the information packs on Living Kidney Donation which is so close to my heart.”

## Analysis Of The Questionnaires

65 people completed a questionnaire during the event and the outcome was as follows.

63 (97%) said they support organ donation.

59 (91%) said they were aware that you could donate a live kidney.

47 (72%) said they would consider donating a living kidney to a close family member or friend who needs a kidney transplant.

This is a very positive response and reflects the attitude to organ donation by the Hindu community.

Suggestions from respondents:

“More marketing and awareness are required”.

“Make it automatic unless you opt out.”

“Do more events to give information at community events.”

**Press coverage:**

<https://www.garavigujarat.biz/lcni-medical-camp/>