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# 72-yr-old dead man gives new life to four

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Chandigarh: The family of a 72-year-old donor from Himachal Pradesh showcased exemplary courage and consented for organ donation, thereby giving new life to four. With their selfless decision, two critical patients suffering from terminal kidney ailment were given new kidneys while two others underwent cornea transplantation at Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER).

"Considering the age of the donor, the transplant had its own challenges. But barring age, all parameters for transplantation being favourable, the team decided to go ahead and successfully conducted the procedures. Since we knew that the donor was in good health before the accident, we decided to go ahead and carry a biopsy after organ retrieval that showed that the kidneys were in good condition. We are happy that we have been able to use both the kidneys successfully for two patients," stated Dr Ashish Sharma, who led the surgeries.

Within a span of seven months, PGIMER's department of renal transplant surgery has performed 31 cadaveric kidney organ donations. Recently, four kidney transplants were done consecutively within a stretch of 12 hours headed by Dr Ashish Sharma.

PGIMER has conducted a total of 3,545 kidney transplants including 3,301 live and 244 cadaveric since the inception of the kidney transplant programme in June 1973.