THE MARKET FOR KIDNEYS: IS THE IRANIAN MODEL A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE?

George Andreopoulos, City University of New York, New York, USA
Giuliana Campanelli Andreopoulos, William Paterson University, Wayne, New Jersey, USA
Alexandros Panayides, William Paterson University, Wayne, New Jersey, USA
Taghi Ramin, William Paterson University, Wayne, New Jersey, USA

dx.doi.org/10.18374/IJBS-15-3.9

ABSTRACT

The developed countries' model of renal transplantation, based on donation, is facing a serious shortage of organs. The wealthy patients on the waiting list try solve the problem by buying kidneys off the black market at extraordinary prices while the remaining patients die waiting for the kidney to arrive. To increase the supply of organs and to eliminate the black market, several economists and policy makers have suggested the introduction of a free market for kidneys, a model that has been implemented in Iran since 1988. The scope of this paper is to analyze the Iranian experience of renal transplantation, understand its main strengths and weaknesses, and provide specific recommendations to policy makers.

Keywords: *Renal-transplantation; Market; Iran.*