There is a daily average of 2,000 outpatients per day; the highest utilization rate is 86 percent, and kidney and liver transplantation beds are at 90 percent and 92 percent, respectively. The total number of beds devoted to transplantation at Tianjin First Central Hospital during this period was 500, at the Oriental Organ Transplant Centre. Total bed count at the hospital was 1,226, with 726 originally available. Total floor space was 46,558 square meters, 1,500 beds were devoted to organ transplant patients. According to Tianjin’s advertising materials for foreign patients online, the total time an organ tourist would expect to stay in the hospital could be between three weeks and two months, depending on the wait time for an organ, and how long it takes to corroborate. If an average patient stay was 30 days per transplant, it would indicate that over 4,500 transplants took place at the Oriental Organ Transplant Centre during the years in question, that is, from late 2006 until the end of 2010. If it was three weeks, the yearly number might be about 7,800, whereas if it was two months, the total might be 2,700.

It is impossible to know the actual average length of stay at Tianjin First, but transplant surgeons who reviewed this report considered that either of those scenarios would still be plausible. But this is not all that can be derived from intimidation reports and records about bed usage. Updated data in 2014 stated that bed usage sat at 135 percent, and that the bed count was now 1,500.

**Guillermo numbers**

What numbers emerge from all this? With utilization of the 500 beds at Oriental Organ Transplant Centre near or above capacity from 2007 to 2013, the total number of transplants could range anywhere from around 20,000 to around 60,000, depending on the length of stay of patients. Very rough estimates are possible given the many unknowns. For instance, the figure, the building records indicate that it’s far higher than the claimed cumulative total of 10,000 transplants over 35 years reported in ofi- cial sources. That number already presents an avoidance dilemma to explain away, but the numbers based simply on bed utili- zation rates for far higher than any known source of organs would be able to explain, even if every one reported in China was shipped to Tianjin for processing. It has been calculated that in the year 2015, the hospital complex stands on the left.

The international transplant community has been remarkably uncurious about all this. Dr. Delmonico, the former head of the transplant program at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, wrote in an email, “I feel embarrassed that my colleagues worldwide do not feel, like me, that this kind of curiosity matters. First, because truth matters, moral hazards matter, human rights matter, and the lives of the exploited, even if dead, matter. They have a moral claim on us.”

**Embroiled**

China has no national transplantation network, and is only now attempting to build a volunteer transplant system. Until very recently, Chinese officials said that over 90 percent of transplant activity was performed without consent. That the procedures around executions involve local courts and prisons, which have their own relations with hospitals and doctors, as indicated by abundant testimony from executions officials and doctors, meaning that Tianjin could not simply draw from death row prisoners around the country. In 2014, Xi Jinping, the state mouthpiece, reported that in the past there were 600 hospitals in China, virgin and contending for all organ transplant issues needed organs, too.

Of course, there is no way to know whether the data in its building renovation docu- ments hospital staff are simply tying. But it’s unclear what incentives they would have to do so. Floor space or numbers of beds are tangible infrastructures that cannot be faked, and the utilization numbers, from two independent official sources, show the same upward trajectory of high usage from 2006 on in 2010.

So where did the organs come from?

**The forbiddenquestion**

There’s a potential clue in one of the many hats that Dr. Shen Zhongyang is found wearing. He appears on the website of the People’s Armed Police General Hospital in a full paramilitary uniform. The People’s Armed Police is a domestic standing army deployed around the coun- try to help clean up after natural disasters and keep the peace.

The key problem for doing large num- bers of these transplants is who is the donor source. Given that China had no voluntary, open transplant system, political connections are the only way to get body parts.

Theorists about how Tianjin First Central opened the opath system thus revolved around its political ties, including that of a man who became a member of the Communist Party’s fancy advisory body, the National People’s Congress, in 2014. Military and paramilitary hospitals are plugged into the system of labour camps, which have been dealing with this topic for more than a decade. In his book “The Slaughter: Mass Killings, Organ Harvesting, and China’s Secret Transplant Program,” author Avery Lipkind described a decade of black market transplants over 15 years reported in official sources. All of the transplant centres needed organs, too.

There has been a large resident population of Falun Gong of between half a mil- lion to a million at any given time in the so-called ‘laukas’ system through this entire period,” he said, using the Chinese term that refers to the system of labour camps.

“This is the only potential source, numerically, which they could possibly be pulling from, though there may be some Uyghur Muslims and Tibetans in there too, though the rates of disappear- ance are not as high for those communities,” he said.

Gutmann’s interviews of hundreds of Falun Gong patients who found that one in five, and sometimes two in five, Falun Gong detainees were subject to blood testing while in captivity. Those released from labour camps also describe disappearance of those tested. In covertly recorded tele- phone calls with overseas investigators since 2006, doctors and nurses in China have acknowledged that they source their organs from Falun Gong prisoners.

There are at least a dozen brain death camps and prisons within a short drive of Tianjin, many of which have the capac- ity to hold hundreds or thousands of prin- cipal practice began, in July 1999. I think the majority of those organs are being sourced from Falun Gong, Gutmann said in a telephone interview.

“There has been a large resident popula- tion of Falun Gong of between half a mil- lion to a given time in the so-called ‘laukas’ system through this entire period,” he said, using the Chinese term that refers to the system of labour camps. “This is the only potential source, numerically, which they could possibly be pulling from, though there may be some Uyghur Muslims and Tibetans in there too, though the rates of disappear- ance are not as high for those communities,” he said.

Gutmann’s interviews of hundreds of Falun Gong patients who found that one in five, and sometimes two in five, Falun Gong detainees were subject to blood testing while in captivity. Those released from labour camps also describe disappearance of those tested. In covertly recorded tele- phone calls with overseas investigators since 2006, doctors and nurses in China have acknowledged that they source their organs from Falun Gong prisoners.

There are at least a dozen brain death camps and prisons within a short drive of Tianjin, many of which have the capac- ity to hold hundreds or thousands of prin- cipal practice began, in July 1999. I think the majority of those organs are being sourced from Falun Gong, Gutmann said in a telephone interview.

“There has been a large resident popula- tion of Falun Gong of between half a mil- lion to a given time in the so-called ‘laukas’ system through this entire period,” he said, using the Chinese term that refers to the system of labour camps. “This is the only potential source, numerically, which they could possibly be pulling from, though there may be some Uyghur Muslims and Tibetans in there too, though the rates of disappear- ance are not as high for those communities,” he said.

Gutmann’s interviews of hundreds of Falun Gong patients who found that one in five, and sometimes two in five, Falun Gong detainees were subject to blood testing while in captivity. Those released from labour camps also describe disappearance of those tested. In covertly recorded tele- phone calls with overseas investigators since 2006, doctors and nurses in China have acknowledged that they source their organs from Falun Gong prisoners.

There are at least a dozen brain death camps and prisons within a short drive of Tianjin, many of which have the capac- ity to hold hundreds or thousands of prin- cipal practice began, in July 1999. I think the majority of those organs are being sourced from Falun Gong, Gutmann said in a telephone interview.

“There has been a large resident popula- tion of Falun Gong of between half a mil- million to a given time in the so-called ‘laukas’ system through this entire period,” he said, using the Chinese term that refers to the system of labour camps. “This is the only potential source, numerically, which they could possibly be pulling from, though there may be some Uyghur Muslims and Tibetans in there too, though the rates of disappear- ance are not as high for those communities,” he said.

Gutmann’s interviews of hundreds of Falun Gong patients who found that one in five, and sometimes two in five, Falun Gong detainees were subject to blood testing while in captivity. Those released from labour camps also describe disappearance of those tested. In covertly recorded tele- phone calls with overseas investigators since 2006, doctors and nurses in China have acknowledged that they source their organs from Falun Gong prisoners.

There are at least a dozen brain death camps and prisons within a short drive of Tianjin, many of which have the capac- ity to hold hundreds or thousands of prin-