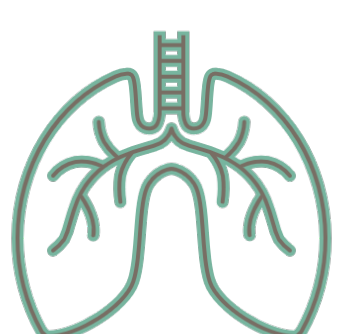
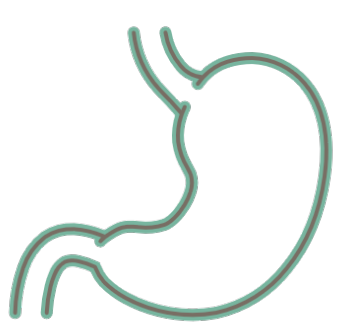
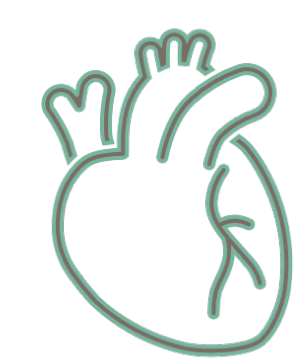


Transplant physicians’ preferences in deceased organ allocation: A pilot discrete choice experiment

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Research motivation and aims

Deceased donor organs available for transplantation are a scarce resource since beginning of transplantation medicines, resulting in the demand far exceeding the supply in every country worldwide.

To assess transplant physicians’ preferences guiding the allocation of deceased donor organs in Germany using a discrete choice experiment (DCE).

Methods

Based on a systematic review and focus group discussions, 5 attributes, each with two to four levels, were selected.

Each respondent was presented with 8 choice sets and asked to choose between two hypothetical patients without an opt-out.

Data were analyzed using conditional logit model.

The pilot sample comprised n=57, including 22 conservative and 35 surgical transplant physicians from German transplant centers (period: 11/2021-03/2022).

Attribute

Expected survival after transplantation

Expected quality of life after transplantation

Chance for a further organ offer

Age

Registered donor

I choose...

Patient A

+ 15 years



Bad



25 %



70 years old

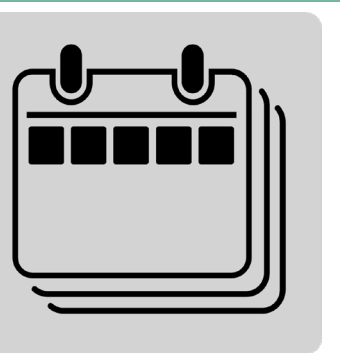


Yes



Patient B

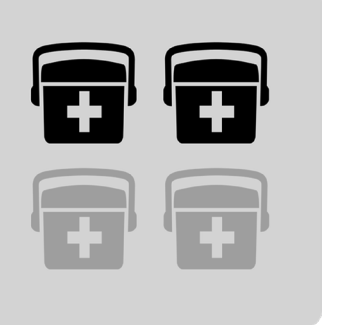
+ 5 years



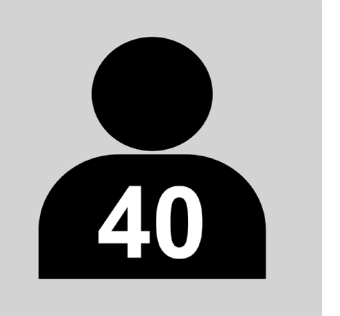
Good



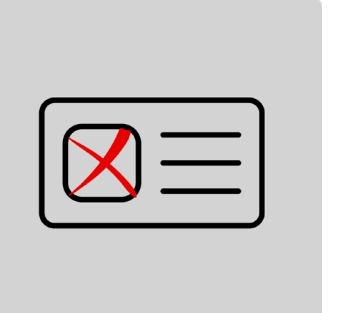
50 %



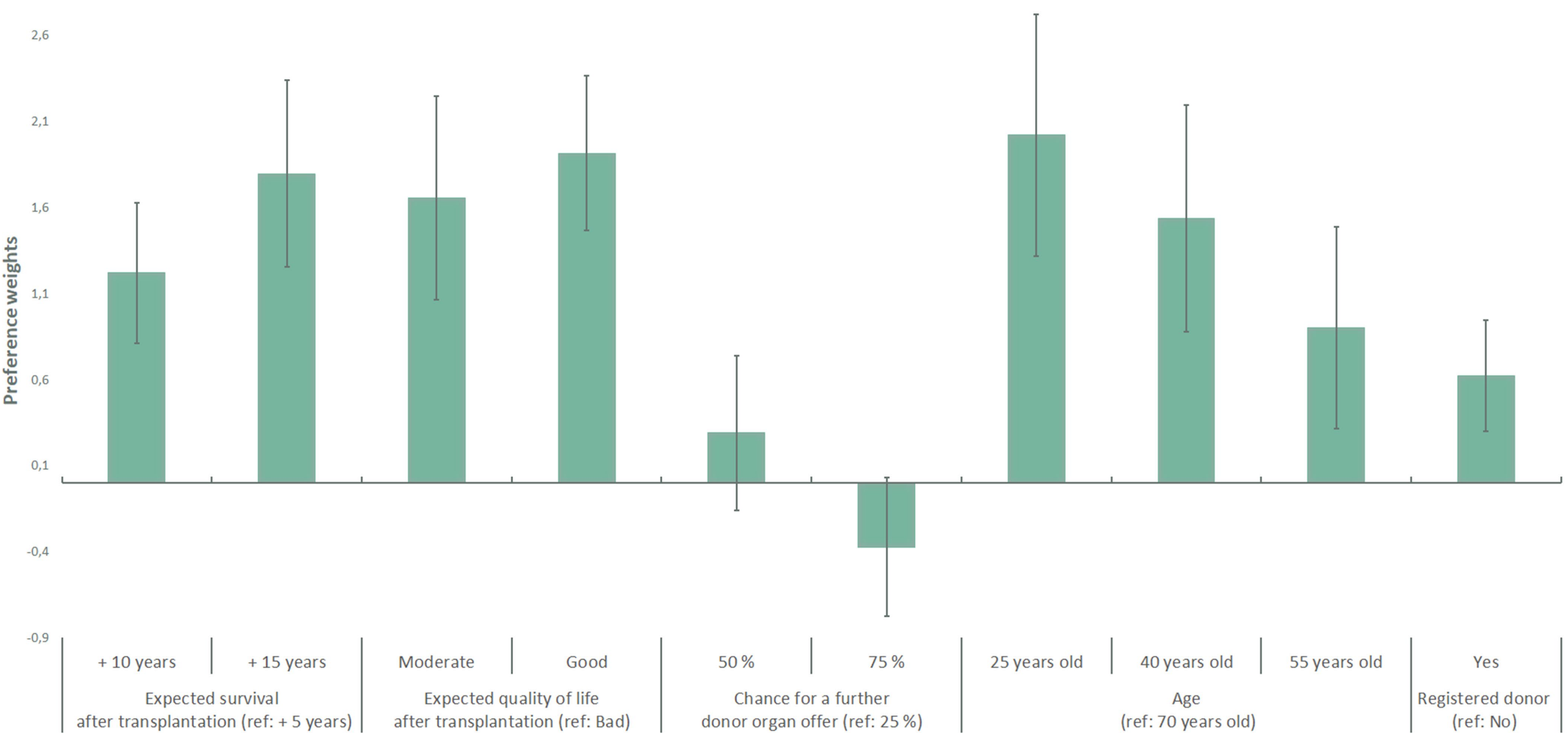
40 years old



No



Results



Conclusions

Transplant physicians preferred to allocate deceased donor organs by criteria related to success, whereas medical urgency was of minor importance.

Their opinions are substantial in revising the German organ allocation policy.

