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They saved 8 lives at the same time with the world's first 8-cross liver transplant



Vahap MUNYAR

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SATURDAY While browsing social media on the afternoon of 2017, İnönü University Liver Transplantation Institute Deputy Director Prof. **Volkan Ince**l saw 's post:



- **After the 8-cross liver transplantation operations, Prof. Message from our teacher Sezai Yılmaz...**

Malatya İnönü University Liver Transplantation Institute Director Prof. **Sezai Yılmaz,** assistant Prof. **Thin**In the video published on his social media account, he spoke as follows:

- **It was known how important the multiple cross transplants were for people to reach one organ. Double and triple cross transplants were being performed around the world. We performed 4, 5, 6 and 7 cross transplants for the first time in Malatya. 8'li çapraz nakil de dünyada ilk oldu.**

Prof. **Sezai Yılmaz,** He particularly underlined the following point:

- **Our aim is not to perform multiple cross operations. The main purpose is to offer hope and organs to patients who have been waiting too long in the cross-liver transplant pool or whose situation has become urgent.**

He examined the same point once again:

- **Our only purpose** "We performed the 7th cross liver transplant for the first time in the world, let us do the 8th liver transplant as well." **It wasn't. Two of our patients had been waiting for a long time. Besides** "decompensated" (organ has lost its function) **they had been.**

"Decompensated" He noted that transplantation to two patients with the disease was possible with an 8-way cross:

- **Therefore, we performed the 8-**

cross liver transplantation for the first time in the world. We had a good night with all our friends.

Prof. **Sezai Yilmaz**I wrote a message to and asked:

- **Why and how was the decision for 8-cross liver transplantation made? How did the operation happen?**

Prof. **Yilmaz** replied:

- **We performed the 8-cross liver transplant operation on Friday, June 12, 2026. The operation started at 08.00 in the morning and ended around 24.00. However, due to vascular problems in two patients - we had to re-operate those 2 patients - it ended around 06:00.**

He stated that the operation ended in a total of 22 hours:

- **Another patient required revision on Saturday evening. As of now, all donors and recipients are doing well.**

He made the following point:

- "Cross pool" **It had recently reached an excess of 24 patients and 29 incompatible donors, making them unsuitable for matching.**

"Cross liver transplant" Formula from Boston (USA) University economy Department faculty members Prof. **Tayfun Sönmez** and Prof. **Utku Unver**He reminded that he developed:

- **The Boston team has been offering us 5, 6 and 7 cross transplants with matching in the last week. However, in the last week** "cross pool"**Two patients died in Three patients' general condition worsened and required intensive care treatment.**

He emphasized that the current conditions of the patients in question are not suitable for liver transplantation:

- **When we started the 8-cross transplant operation, two of our patients were in extremely serious condition. They had severe fluid accumulation in their abdomen and high jaundice values. His kidney functions were about to deteriorate.**

He stated that a situation occurred in which these 3 patients could only reach healthy livers with 8-cross transplantation:

- **Therefore, we decided to perform an 8-cross transplant.**

He pointed out that 16 surgeries took place simultaneously:

- **Our Liver Transplant Institute has 12 operating rooms. We also used 4**

operating rooms from Turgut Özal Medical Center for 8-way cross transplantation. So, we performed 16 surgeries at the same time.

I wondered how many people they carried out the operations with, he shared:

- **We performed the operations with a staff of 140 people, including our nurse friends.**

Prof. **Tayfun Sönmez** and Prof. **Utku Unver**He also gave the following information about:

- **Our teachers Tayfun and Utku are in constant contact with us. With the formula they developed, they made great contributions to the formation of a cross-transplantation pool and to the meeting of the most suitable donors and recipients. They gave their contributions from the Far East, where they went on holiday, during our 8-way cross-transplantation process.**

The situation of the patients was difficult, İnönü University Liver Transplant Institute Director Prof. **Sezai Yilmaz** and his team made their mark on the world once again with the first 8-liver transplant, making history...

Sezai Thank you to the minds and hearts of our teacher and his team...

Who was the leader of the team that performed the 8-liver transplant?

İNÖNÜ University Liver Transplant Institute Director Prof. **Sezai Yilmaz**I asked him the names of the doctors who took part in the 8-cross operation, and he shared the staff managing the teams:

- Prof.**Sezai Yilmaz**
- Prof.**Tevfik Tolga Şahin** (Organization Desk)

Donor (donor) operation

those who manage their team

1- Prof. **Adil Başkıran 1-** Prof. **Cengiz Ara**

2- Prof. **Fatih Özdemir** **2-** Prof. **Volkan Ince**

3- Prof. **Fatih Gönültaş** **3-** Prof. **Bora Barut**

4- Assoc. **Muhammed Canazrah 4-** Assoc. **Cemalettin Koç**

5- Assoc. **Barış Sarıcı** Assoc. **Koray Kutluturk**

6- Dr. **Ertuğrul Karabulut** (lecturer) 6- Assoc. **Master Sertac**

7- Dr. **Hüseyin Koçaaslan** (lecturer)

7- Assoc. **Serdar Karakaş**

8- Dr. **Mehmet Guzel** (lecturer)

8- Assoc. **Neslihan Celik**

4,400 liver transplants were performed in 25 years

IN THE WORLD at İnönü University, a week before the first 8-cross transplant success. **"25 years in liver transplantation"** ceremony was held.

Director of İnönü University Liver Transplantation Institute, Prof. **Sezai Yılmaz,** At the ceremony, he stated that they have performed 4,400 liver transplants in 25 years:

- **We have become one of the highest volume liver transplant centers in the world. We helped thousands of adult and child patients come to life.**

Prof. **Yilmaz,** He stated that they have produced hundreds of academic studies in 25 years:

- **We provided liver transplantation training to academicians from all over the world. We have not only performed transplants for 25 years. We produced science, developed new techniques, and led the world with innovative practices such as cross-liver transplantation.**

Professor working at Boston College in cross transfers. **Tayfun Sönmez** and Prof. **Utku Unver**He underlined that they used 's application that matches transmitters:

- **Starting from 2023, we have provided health and a future to 50 percent more patients thanks to almost cross-liver transplantation in 2024 and 2025. Many patients did not even have a chance to access a liver transplant.**

He emphasized that thanks to multiple crossings, patient traffic occurred from Crimea, Bulgaria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and North Africa to Malatya:

- **From where? They had donors but they were incompatible. Patients were able to regain their health thanks to cross transplantation. Thanks to cross transplantation, very convenient and ideal transplants can be performed from the same blood group and the same liver volume without endangering the health of the donor.**

We made the headline 'Organ Clearinghouse will save 5 thousand lives a year'

YEAR 2024 At the end of July, Prof. **Sezai Yilmaz**Held at İnönü University upon the invitation of **"Organ Transplantation Congress"**I went to Malatya to join the .

during the congress **“cross transplant”** Professor of Boston College (USA), who developed the formula. **Tayfun Sönmez** with Prof. **Utku Unver**He was presented with an honorary doctorate. Prof. **Tayfun Sönmez,** After donning the honorary doctorate, he first revealed the following data:

- **Until our formula came into play, only 10 cross transplants could be performed per year. With our formula, İnönü University Liver Transplant Institute exceeded 100 transplants in one year. So, he performed the 10-year transplant in one year.**

Prof. **Sönmez,** During his speech, he reflected on the screen the article that made the headlines of Hürriyet on May 27, 2018:

- **Organ Clearinghouse will save 5 thousand lives a year...**

President **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**SoftBank's boss in London while watching 's trip to England **Masayoshi Son**100 billion dollars under the leadership of **“Vision Found”**who founded and managed it, **“Centricus”**flour owner **Dalınç Arıburnu** I met with.

Arıburnu, childhood friend Prof. **Tayfun Sönmez** and Prof. **Utku Unver**in Turkey with **“Organ Clearinghouse”** He explained that they started working to establish it:

- **Prof. Sönmez and Prof. In the USA with the model developed by Ünver** “National Kidney Clearinghouse” **occurred. We explained the model to the Ministry of Health and we have come a long way. If the center is established, the lives of 5 thousand patients a year will be saved.**

On the day my article was published, the Ministry of Health perhaps **“out of concern that it would create the perception of organ trafficking”** He announced that he was not keen on the issue. A year later, Prof. **Sezai Yilmaz** and his team to the 5 liver transplant operation **Mesude Ersan**It made headlines in Hürriyet with his signature.

This headline, Prof. **Sönmez** and Prof. **Ünver**'s Prof. **Yilmaz**It enabled him to contact . Two economics professors and Prof. **Yilmaz**The frequencies of 's being consistent were sent to İnönü University Liver Transplant Institute. **“8 cross transplantation”** paved the way for success...

A donor whose organ is not compatible with his/her relative may be compatible with another patient.



TürkiyeIn Turkey, 80 percent of organ transplants occur from living donors. Only 30-40 percent of donors can be transplanted to their relatives. A donor who is incompatible with a relative may be compatible with a patient he or she does not know.

In this case, organ exchange can be made between medically compatible donors. To achieve this, a large pool of patients and donors is needed.

Boston College economics professors **Tayfun Sönmez** And **Utku Unver**developed by **"Banu Bedetenci Sönmez Liver Transplant System"** It enables the formation of the transceiver pool in question.