

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

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ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Factors associated with the quality of corneas retrieved for transplantation by Eye Banks: A scoping review protocol
AUTHORS	Machado Mota, Felipe; Ferreira-Júnior, Marcos; Maidana, Gustavo Moura; de Queiroz Cardoso, Andréia Insabralde; Abes, Bruna Dias; Dias, Mayra; Meza, Letícia Lima

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Petsoglou, Constantinos University of Sydney CAR
REVIEW RETURNED	29-Mar-2024

GENERAL COMMENTS	An excellent scoping study. Some comments: Pg 4 line 48: Please amend as eye bank utility of tissue can range from 40% to 90% depending on the institution Pg 9 53. The scoping study is reviewing published literature very well. Unfortunately much of the data needed is within each eye bank organisation and not in the published literature. I would recommend expanding this section to include personal contact with the major eye bank organisations to gain de-identified data. The Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations should be a point of call for this information. Some organisations may be limited by local ethical standards and this needs to be acknowledged.
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REVIEWER	Aghamollaei, Hossein Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences
REVIEW RETURNED	05-Apr-2024

GENERAL COMMENTS	Dear author, This study protocol is interesting, and its results can be useful to improving the quality of corneal tissue and finally corneal transplantation. In my opinion authors should add some keywords like " keratoplasty", " penetrating keratoplasty", " cornea donation", " cornea shortage" in the search strategy (table 1).
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer: 1

1. Pg 4 line 48: Please amend as eye bank utility of tissue can range from 40% to 90% depending on the institution

A modification was made to the text of the article to include this request. Additionally, citations of the documents that support this assertion have been included.

2. Pg 9 53. The scoping study is reviewing published literature very well. Unfortunately much of the data needed is within each eye bank organisation and not in the published literature. I would

recommend expanding this section to include personal contact with the major eye bank organisations to gain de-identified data. The Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations should be a point of call for this information. Some organisations may be limited by local ethical standards and this needs to be acknowledged.

To address this request, an addition was made to the search strategy section, specifying that contact will be made with the Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations. The authors will request anonymized data regarding information on the institutional protocols for the procurement, storage, processing, and evaluation of tissues by the primary eye banks affiliated with each local association that comprises the alliance. This strategy will complement the search strategies already included in the protocol and will be crucial in achieving a robust mapping of the study object.

Reviewer: 2

1. In my opinion authors should add some keywords like "keratoplasty", "penetrating keratoplasty", "cornea donation", "cornea shortage" in the search strategy (table 1).

The controlled descriptor "Keratoplasty" was already part of the search strategy. To address the reviewer's request, the descriptor "keratoplasty penetrating" was included, along with the keywords "cornea donation" and "cornea shortage." These terms were incorporated into the pilot search strategy included in the protocol (Table 1). Additionally, these terms were included as keywords in Supplementary File 3, as they will be incorporated into the strategies generated for each database listed in the sources of information after the protocol's approval.