BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of “I Trapianti e la Sperimentazione Umana” (“Transplantation and Human Experimentation”)


The book by Dr. Ferrando Mantorani, Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Florence, is an extensive treatise on the Italian and foreign laws regulating “Transplantation and Human Experimentation.” In 832 pages, it deals in considerable detail on the juridic aspects related to living and cadaveric transplant donors, particularly on the limitations of the consent, on the safeguards for the life and health of the donor, on the definition of death, and on the experimental aspects of some of the transplants. In addition to the kidney, other transplantable organs and tissues such as bone, bone marrow, skin, blood vessels, and eye are included in the discussion. A 200-page appendix contains the existing laws regulating transplantation in Italy and about 20 other countries.

The book by Professor Mantorani appears to be one of the most complete presently available on the legal aspects of human transplantation. It should be of considerable value to all interested in the subject. It is unfortunate, however, that in a field in such rapid evolution as this the bibliography and the appendix extend only to 1970.

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