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**Sacrificing Something Important: The Lived Experience of Compensated Kidney Donors  
in the Philippines**

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Despite several advances in HD and PD, an uncomplicated kidney transplant still provides the highest level of quality life for patients diagnosed with ESRD. The shortage of available kidneys has driven potential recipients to resort to underground organ trade. This study is to identified the structure of the universal phenomenon of sacrificing something important among the compensated kidney donors of the Philippines guided by the van Manen Phenomenological Method. Qualitative data was collected by conducting in-depth face-to-face dialogues from 13 participants in the town of Baseco, in Manila, Philippines. Raw data was coded, analyzed and categorized to answer the research question.

There is a huge gap in literature about the meaning of sacrificing something important as the lived experience of a compensated kidney donors in the Philippines. There are no studies encountered both quantitative and qualitative, using the nursing paradigm that focuses on the lived experiences of compensated especially in the Philippines, where there is a huge market for kidneys.

The structure of sacrificing something important among the compensated kidney donors emerges from the *extrinsic intent* of adversity and the *intrinsic intent* of altruism, which is instrumental to the *struggle* of making a difficult decision, emerging in the *act* with reciprocation, and although resulting in the *consequences* of health deterioration and loss, resilience makes bouncing back possible.

The knowledge illuminated from this study, will provide the nurse and other healthcare providers beginning evidence on how these lived experiences can influence nursing practice, education and research. The implication for nursing education is towards creating a curriculum that is culturally-competent that addresses the need of the vulnerable and marginalized population. Awareness campaigns, continuing dialogues about current policies and implementation of evidence-based programs are the implications in the area of nursing practice. Supporting research on quality of life and increasing donor pool are the main implications for nursing research.

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