

Lower survival rate for women with kidney disease

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian women with chronic kidney disease (CKD) have lower survival rates compared to men, as many do not seek dialysis treatment.

National Kidney Foundation (NKF) chairman Datuk Dr Zaki Morad Mohd Zaher said although there were no proven reasons the illness puts women at a higher risk, it was believed that women tend to delay health screening due to social reasons, among them, having to care for their families.

“Recent studies have also shown that CKD is more likely to develop in women compared to men, with an average

prevalence of 14% in women and 12% in men,” he told a press conference during the World Kidney Day 2018 event at a shopping mall here yesterday.

“It is possible to lose up to 90% of kidney function without experiencing any signs,” he said.

As CKD has no symptoms, it was important for everyone to have regular health checks and be more proactive in detecting the disease, he added.

“It is generally well-known that women have a lower mortality risk compared to men. However, studies show there is almost no such survival advantage for women,” he said.