

Jogathon to raise organ transplant awareness

Universiti Malaya medical faculty holding run and forum for the first time

STUDENTS from Universiti Malaya's (UM) Medical Faculty are organising a jogathon scheduled to take place on Sept 22 on UM grounds to raise awareness on organ transplantation.

Organs for Love Jogathon vice-president Ng Siew Yoong said organ transplant as a treatment was relatively little known among Malaysians.

"There are about 21,000 patients on the waiting list for an organ transplant, with 99% seeking a kidney transplant," said Ng.

This is the first time the faculty is organising a jogathon for its annual organ transplant awareness event.

Previous year's awareness programme only involved a forum.

Ng said as a bonus, there would also be a forum after the jogathon. The speakers are Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) nephrologist Prof Dr Ng Kok Peng, who will speak on living donor transplantation, Dr Hasdy Haron from the National Transplant Resource Centre (NTRC) and a third speaker from the National Transplant Registry.

Ng said there would also be a lucky draw with hampers, hotel buffet vouchers and electronic gadgets as prizes and performances by flash mobs.

Booths will be set up for free checks on body mass index, blood glucose and urine test.

Cholesterol tests will also be offered at RM5 each but will be limited to 150 partici-



Ng (left) and fellow organiser Lim Pei Thong with the Organs for Love jogathon poster. Both of them are first year students at UM's Faculty of Medicine.

pants after the run.

There will be organ pledging booths set up by the [National Kidney Foundation](#) and the National Transplant Registry.

Ng said 364 people had registered to participate in the run and they were targeting to have up to 450 participants.

Participants are required to be at Centrepont, Faculty of Medicine, UM by 6am on Sept 22.

Snacks will be provided and a 15-minute warm-up session will be held at 7am before the flag-off at 7.15am.

Participants have the option of doing a

5km fun run or the 7km competitive run.

The run is expected to end at 9.30am and the forum begins thereafter in the medical faculty. It is expected to end at about noon.

There will be an entry fee of RM45 per person for the 5km fun run and RM50 for the 7km competitive run.

Group entry of up to five will enjoy a RM35 charge per person.

All proceeds from the event will go to the National Kidney Foundation and University Malaya Medical Centre. For details, call 6016-598-0593 (Beh) or visit <https://www.facebook.com/organsforlove>