

Foundation introduces cheaper dialysis

KUALA LUMPUR — The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) Malaysia announced that it has worked at lowering dialysis fees for non-sponsored patients.

Under the new scheme, the foundation's regular patients will have their treatment fee reduced from RM100 to RM90 per session while those receiving a RM50 subsidy by the Health Ministry are only required to pay RM40 per session.

Its chairman, Datuk Dr Zaki Morad Mohamad Zaher, said: "Chronic kidney disease is a life-long disease and can have negative impacts on kidney patients' quality of life.

"With the rising costs of living, dialysis treatments can take a toll on the finances of patients and their families. NKF wishes to help patients and reduce the impact of kidney disease on their lives."

The revised fee will not affect patients sponsored by bodies such as Public Service Department, the Royal Malaysian Police and statutory corporations.

NKF is a not-profit organisation dedicated to helping underprivileged kidney patients. It is funded by donations from the public and the private sector.

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grammes and works with various bodies to increase awareness of the disease through campaigns.

The foundation also provides other forms of support for patients, including the Children's Education Welfare Fund which supports the educational expenses of patients' schoolgoing children and counseling for patients and their families.

Kidney disease impairs the kidney's function to eliminate body waste. If untreated, the waste accumulates in the body until it reaches a toxic level and can lead to total kidney failure, known as end-stage

renal disease. Chronic kidney disease, the advance stage of kidney function loss, is irreversible but its progress can be slowed through regular dialysis.

"At National Kidney Foundation, we believe that dialysis patients have the same right to a quality life," Dr Zaki said.

"We aim to provide a holistic and well-rounded care to ensure patients receive the best support in emotional, psychological and financial aspects."

For more information, visit www.nkf.org.my or call 03-7954 9048.

