

Forum for kidney disease

300 people attend NKF event in Ipoh to learn more about treatment

DIALYSIS treatment rate for new patients in Perak is about 219 for every one million people, said Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir.

He added that a study conducted in 2011 showed that the state was doing its best to increase the treatment rate for last-stage kidney patients.

"There are about 69 haemodialysis centres in the state and about 80% of these are based at government and private hospitals.

"We hope to build more of these dialysis centres to enable patients to have easy access to treatment," he added.

"In bigger cities like Kuala Lumpur, Johor Baru, Pulau Pinang and Negri Sembilan, the rate was more than 250 new patients for every one million people," he said.

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— DATUK SERI DR ZAMBRY ABD KADIR

Dr Zambry also said based on a study in 2010, 56% of new kidney patients in the country were diagnosed with diabetes.

"About 8% of these patients with kidney failure have hypertension.

"The rising trend of patients with kidney diseases caused by high blood pressure and diabetes is



Banging a gong: Dr Mah (centre) officiating the forum with NKF Board of Directors chairman Datuk Dr Zaki Morad bin Mohd Zaher (left).

worrying," he said.

"More so that these two diseases are caused by people's lifestyle that can be managed," he said in a speech that was read by Chenderiang assemblyman Datuk Dr Mah Hang Soon, who represented Dr Zambry when opening the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) 10th Patients' Forum on Sunday.

The forum saw about 300 participants getting valuable information on the disease and advice for financial assistance application and care-giving for patients.



On site: Dr Mah inside the mobile NKF bus.