

NKF may cut dialysis sessions from four to three hours

PETALING JAYA: The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) may reduce its dialysis sessions from four hours to three hours per patient if there is water shortage next week.

Mobile water tanks would be supplied by Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor (Syabas) so that the dialysis operation would continue to run, said NKF chairman Datuk Dr Zaki Morad.

The foundation runs 10 centres in the Klang Valley.

"Our staff are encouraged to avoid water wastage and conserve water during this period," he said.

The water disruption, which will begin on April 24, is due to water supply system improvement works at the Sungai Selangor Phase 2 water treatment plant.

The supply will be gradually

restored by April 27.

Harun Mohamad, who is the manager of another dialysis centre in Petaling Jaya, said their staff would store more water ahead of the water cut.

"It is common. We are used to water disruption. We will just store more water ahead of the dates announced," he said.

"Our dialysis centre cannot just simply shut down. The patients need our services," he said, adding that the dialysis centre needs 500 litres of water per day.

The centre has seven dialysis machines running two shifts which can cater to 24 patients each day.

A staff from the National Heart Institute, known only as Siti, said their operations would not be impacted.

"Our hospital has water tanks. So

whenever there is water disruption, we are not really affected," she said.

As for the homemakers, it is time to retrieve the containers from their storeroom.

"I am not buying new ones but I will need to get out all the pails, big and small, from my storeroom," said housewife Tan Chen Lin, 60, from Taman Sri Petaling.

"I think I will start to store water (today)," she said, adding that her daughter would be helping her.

Housewife Roslinda Majid, 42, from Cheras, said she had started storing keeping water in water drums.

Since the disruption is during weekdays, she said she would have a difficult time as she had to prepare her children for school.

Housewife Rosimah Ali, 32, hoped Syabas would provide

water tankers.

"I heard the water disruption announcement through the radio. I am worried for my baby's health," Rosimah said.

Suhani Idayu Selamat, 38, a mother of two who lives in SS2, said her family was well-prepared.

"This has happened before, so when we moved into this house, we made sure we had a gigantic water tank," she said. "If we run out of supply, our family may take a day off and leave the city."

Accountant Shanti Marimuthu, 35, said she would minimise all the cooking work.

"I will try not to cook much as it takes lots of water to wash the utensils once I'm done.

"My husband and I will probably just eat out since it is just the two of us," she said.

Teacher Abdul Mansoor, 52, who lives in an apartment in Ampang Emas, said he would take as little water as he could when the water tanker arrives.

"Others need the water, too. I will just get what is enough for me and my family," he said.

Furthermore, he lives on the ninth floor.

It would be tiring for him and his family members to have to carry pails of water, he said.

Retiree Suppulethchumy Krishnan, 70, said that she had been storing water in pails.

Staying alone in Port Klang, she said it was difficult for her to carry the pails from outside to inside of the house.

"I've lost count of how many times water disruption happened in our place," she said.