

# Sarikei to have additional haemodialysis centre

**KUCHING:** The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) Malaysia will open an additional haemodialysis centre in Sarikei to accommodate the rising number of kidney patients in the area.

NKF chief executive officer Chua Hong Wee said, at the moment, some renovation works were done on the building.

"We will open another dialysis centre in Sarikei. The building is now undergoing some renovation works and it is expected to be completed in two to three months from now.

"At the same time, we are also waiting for approvals from the Ministry of Health (MoH) and some other agencies including Fire and Rescue Department to inspect the building for safe occupation, and then the occupation permit will follow suit," said Chua when speaking at a press conference yesterday to welcome Minister of Welfare, Community Wellbeing, Women, Family and Childhood Development Dato Sri Fatimah Abdullah who was on a working visit to the National Kidney

Foundation Dialysis Centre (NKFDC) at Kidney Association Sarawak (KAS)/Rotary here yesterday.

He said the reason for NKF to open another dialysis centre in Sarikei is because at the moment there is no such centre in the division except at the Sarikei hospital.

Apart from opening in Sarikei soon, Chua said another centre in Kota Samarahan is expected to be opened in a few months' time.

"NKF together with several

other government agencies and non-governmental organisations have opened dialysis centres in all states except for Negeri Sembilan and Melaka. Our focus is that, it is recommended that a state or an area open a dialysis centre especially in the state or an area which has so many commercial dialysis centres or treatment centres that only look for profit.

"Our current statistic is showing that around 1,700 kidney patients in Malaysia are seeking haemodialysis treatment," he said.