

Going beyond call of duty for kidney health

Foundation contributes medical supplies to ministry, empowers dialysis patients via webinar

THE National Kidney Foundation of Malaysia (NKF) provided assistance to the Health Ministry and educated kidney patients via a health webinar as part of its efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The non-profit organisation, which has been providing subsidised dialysis treatments in Malaysia for over 30 years, donated medical supplies, including surgical gowns, personal protective equipment (PPE) and face masks, as well as 17 haemodialysis machines to the ministry.

The contributions were to ensure proper treatment and care for kidney failure patients.

In addition, NKF also provided treatment at its dialysis centres to patients who were referred by government hospitals.

“Covid-19 has led to an overwhelming number of patients in

government hospitals.

“We recognised the urgency to respond and act swiftly to address the country’s needs at this critical time.

“This initiative is in line with our organisation’s commitment to holistic care and helping the most vulnerable patients with kidney failure and the frontline healthcare personnel,” said NKF Malaysia chairman Datuk Dr Zaki Morad Mohamad Zaher.

Throughout the pandemic, haemodialysis still needs to be carried out for kidney patients, requiring trained staff to deliver the four-hour treatment three times a week.

“Amid such circumstances, we hope that our assistance will help reduce the risks of exposure as well as ease the burden on healthcare workers so they can focus their energy on managing the

Covid-19 cases at their respective hospitals,” he said.

While Malaysia emerges from the movement control order (MCO) and looks forward to economic recovery, the Covid-19 pandemic still poses a threat to Malaysians.

This is especially for vulnerable groups, including those with weak immune systems and chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients undergoing dialysis treatment.

NKF embraced the new normal with full force by organising its first-ever webinar by adhering to social distancing and public health guidelines, which focused on the role of CKD patients in taking charge of their lives during the pandemic.

It featured nephrologist Dr Rafidah Abdullah from Hospital Putrajaya, who empowered attendees with practical and relevant



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medical insights.

Key areas covered included how patients should keep themselves safe and healthy during the Covid-19 pandemic, while maintaining kidney health in terms of medical treatment and everyday living – with emphasis on avoiding infections.

Dr Rafidah shared medical guidelines for CKD patients covering both dialysis treatment and kidney transplants.

This public health webinar was organised by NKF in partnership with Roche Malaysia.

For details, call 03-7954 9048 or visit <http://www.nkf.org.my>