

Meeting the Growing Need for Peritoneal Dialysis Training Support

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Malaysia is facing a rising demand for kidney replacement therapy, with over **53,000 Malaysians living with end-stage renal disease (ESRD)** today. In line with the **ACT-KID 2018–2025 plan**, the country is expanding access to home-based dialysis — particularly **peritoneal dialysis (PD)**, which allows patients to manage treatment in the comfort of their homes.

Since its introduction in the 1980s, PD has steadily grown, accounting for **18.2% of all**

kidney replacement therapy in 2022, up from 13% in 2013. By 2023, **home dialysis patients reached 11.8%**, reflecting the shift toward patient-centred care.

While encouraging, this growth has also created new challenges. Public hospitals reported an **18.6% rise in new PD patients** compared to a 9.3% decline in new haemodialysis patients. With PD care almost entirely driven by the public sector, manpower and resources are increasingly stretched.

To address this, the **National Kidney Foundation (NKF)** established **Malaysia's first PD Training Centre in July 2023**, offering **free patient training and home visits** to complement government hospital services.

The Study at a Glance

NKF carried out a **cross-sectional survey** among **18 government hospital PD nurses** to evaluate the need and impact of its training support. Most respondents had between 1–5 years (50%) or more than 5 years (44%) of PD experience.

The survey explored waiting times, training duration, home visit arrangements, and satisfaction with NKF's services.

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Key Findings

✂ Waiting Time

- Most hospitals reported **1–2 weeks waiting times** for PD training.
- **Home visits were often delayed by more than 4 weeks**, due to manpower shortages.

✂ Training Duration

- Majority (61%) completed training in **5–7 days**, with one-third spending **4–6 hours daily**.
- Training was time-intensive for both staff and patients.

✂ Home Visits

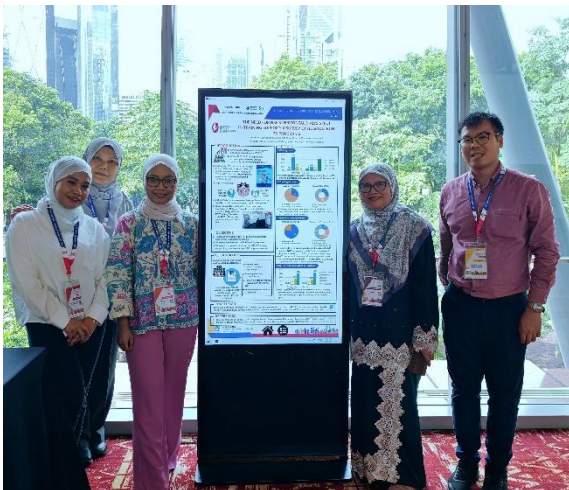
- **78% of home visits were conducted by external staff**, primarily NKF personnel, due to time and manpower constraints.
- NKF contributed significantly, conducting **21 trainings, 12 retrainings, and 65 home visits**, saving an estimated **77.1 staff-days (592.6 hours)** — the equivalent of **74 full working days**.

✂ Satisfaction & Feedback

- Most respondents were **satisfied with NKF's services**.
- 34% recommended **expanding NKF PD centres**, while 11% suggested **online booking systems** for easier access.

Why This Matters

The findings reveal a **clear need for external PD training support** in Malaysia's public hospitals. By reducing staff burden and providing timely training and home visits, NKF has proven to be a valuable partner in strengthening PD services nationwide.



Training is not just about teaching patients the technique — it's about giving them the confidence to manage dialysis at home safely and independently

Moving Forward

As PD continues to expand under national health strategies, stronger collaboration between hospitals and NKF can help ensure that every patient has access to the **skills, guidance, and support** they need to thrive on home dialysis.

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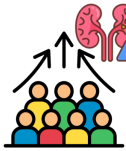


THE NEED FOR NKF'S PERITONEAL DIALYSIS (PD) IN-TRAINING SUPPORT: A SURVEY OF HOSPITAL-RUN PD PROGRAMS

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INTRODUCTION

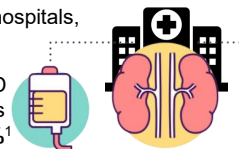


- Over **53,000** Malaysians are living with end-stage renal disease (ESRD).¹
- ACT-KID 2018–2025 emphasizes expanding home-based dialysis, particularly **peritoneal dialysis (PD)**.²

- Historically, PD has started in Malaysia in the 1980s and has grown from 13% of all kidney replacement therapy in 2013 to 18.2% in 2022. Home dialysis patients also increased, reaching 11.8% in 2023.¹

- In public hospitals,

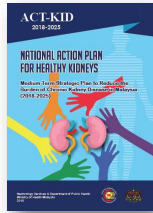
New PD patients
↑↑18.6%¹



New HD patients
↓↓9.3%¹

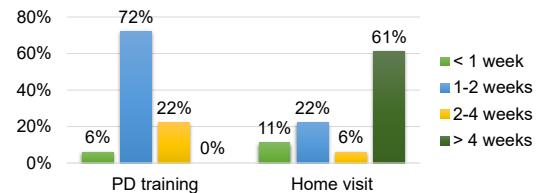
- PD currently remains almost entirely public-sector driven, with the private sector managing only 0.1% of patients.¹

- Rising demand has strained hospital manpower, prompting the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) to establish **Malaysia's first PD Training Centre in July 2023**, offering free patient training and home visits.



RESULT

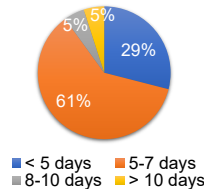
1. Waiting time



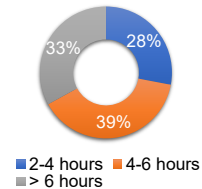
- Most respondents reported 1-2 weeks waiting times for PD training & **prolonged delays for home visits (> 4 weeks)**.

2. Training duration

Days of Training



Hours Spent/day



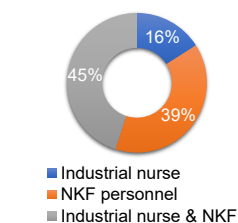
- Training was **time-consuming**, with most respondents completing it in 5–7 days, & more than one-third spending 4–6 hours per day in sessions.

3. Home visit arrangements

Person-in-charge

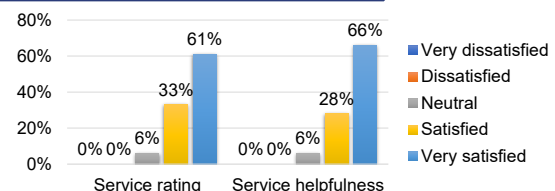


Source of External Staff



- Home visits were **mostly conducted by external staff**, primarily **NKF personnel**, mainly due to **manpower & time constraints** (i.e., 18 & 11 responses, respectively).
- NKF conducted 21 trainings, 12 retrainings & 65 home visits, **saving an estimated 77.1 staff-days** (592.6 hours) – equivalent to over 74 full 8-hour working days.

4. NKF service satisfaction & feedback



- Most respondents were **satisfied** with NKF PD training services, found them **helpful** & recommended expanding NKF PD centers (34%) or introducing online booking (11%).

OBJECTIVE

- To assess the **need** for NKF's PD training support for government hospital PD programs.
- To assess **feedback** on NKF's PD training services.
- To assess the operational impact of NKF's PD training support for government hospital PD programs services.

METHODOLOGY

A cross-sectional study using a **structured questionnaire**



among **18 government hospital PD nurses**, mostly had 1-5 years (50%) & over 5 years (44%) of experience

- Waiting time** – for PD training & home visits
- Training duration** – days & hours
- Home visit arrangements** – Involvement of external staff
- NKF service satisfaction & feedback**

CONCLUSION

There is a clear need for external PD training support in government hospitals. NKF's PD services were well-received & effective in reducing staff burden. Strengthening collaboration with NKF may enhance PD service delivery nationwide.

REFERENCES

- Hooi LS and Ong LM (Eds). 2025. Thirty-first Report of the Malaysian Dialysis and Transplant 2023, Kuala Lumpur.
- Ministry of Health Malaysia. 2018. National Action Plan for Healthy Kidneys (ACT-KID) 2018-2025.



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