



KEMENTERIAN KESIHATAN MALAYSIA

TEKS UCAPAN

YB DATUK SERI DR. DZULKEFLY AHMAD

MENTERI KESIHATAN

SEMPENA

**THE LAUNCH OF 18th ANNUAL DIALYSIS CONFERENCE
(ADC 2025)**

SABTU, 11 OKTOBER 2025

**ONE WORLD HOTEL,
BANDAR UTAMA CITY CENTRE**

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Salam Sejahtera dan Salam Malaysia MADANI.

Thank you to the **Master of Ceremony**, Mr Idris bin Mohamad.

Yang Berbahagia Dr. Izzuna Mudla binti Ghazali,

Timbalan Pengarah Kanan, Bahagian Perkembangan Perubatan, KKM.

Yang Berbahagia Dato' Dr. Zaki Morad bin Mohd Zaher,

Chairman, National Kidney Foundation of Malaysia (NKF).

Yang Berusaha Dr. Thiruventhiran Thilaganathan,

Vice Chairman, Board of Directors, NKF.

Yang Berusaha Associate Prof. Dr. Wan Ahmad Hafiz,

Chairperson, Scientific Committee ADC 2025.

Yang Berusaha Encik Choo Kok Ming,

Chief Executive Officer, NKF.

Distinguished guests, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

1. Alhamdulillah, all praise to Allah SWT, we are gathered this afternoon for the **18th Annual Dialysis Conference (ADC 2025)**. It is an honour to stand before an esteemed audience — united in a shared mission to improve kidney health in Malaysia.

2. Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is one of the **greatest health challenges of our generation**. More than **5 million Malaysians** are now living with CKD. Yet only 5% know they have it. Every day, **28 Malaysians** are diagnosed with kidney failure and begin dialysis. That is a busload of people — DAILY.

3. In 2010, Malaysia spent **RM572 million** on End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) treatment. Today, it costs **RM3.3 billion annually**. If we do not act boldly now, **by 2040, more than 106,000 Malaysians** will require dialysis. Truly, *we cannot dialyse our way out of a kidney crisis*.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. The Ministry of Health (MOH) has taken proactive steps to sustain access to treatment. Our **Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) First Policy** encourages eligible patients to begin with PD at home. This approach **gives independence to patients, reduces congestion at dialysis centres, and cuts costs for both families and the health system**.

5. Yet as per 2022, only **5,784 patients were on PD, compared to over 43,000 on haemodialysis (HD)**. This imbalance must change. We must build confidence among clinicians and patients to embrace PD as the first option.

6. But treatment alone will bankrupt the system. **CKD prevalence has risen from 9% in 2011 to 15.5% today.** We must move upstream — **education, lifestyle interventions, community-based screening** — so kidney disease is caught early; shifting from sick-care to healthcare.

Ladies and gentlemen,

7. This is where ADC 2025 is invaluable. With the theme “***Innovate, Elevate, Transform***”, this conference is a platform to share knowledge, drive innovation in dialysis and transplantation, and advance holistic patient care. I am encouraged that ADC 2025 coincides with **World Health Assembly Resolution 78 (WHA78)**, which for the first time recognises kidney disease within the global NCD agenda.

8. This elevates kidney health to the world stage. Malaysia must align with this agenda by emphasising: **prevention and education, early detection in primary care, equitable access to treatment , and stronger research collaboration.** If we innovate in peritoneal dialysis and prevention, Malaysia can be a **regional leader in sustainable kidney care.**

9. We must also prepare for the future of kidney care.

- **AI tools** are now able to predict kidney failure risk earlier than conventional methods. Imagine embedding this into **MySejahtera 2.0** for real-time screening.
- **Cell therapies** are being trialled globally, offering hope to slow or even reverse CKD progression.
- **Value-based care models** have shown success in slowing CKD decline in other countries — a model we must study for Malaysia.

10. Kidney care is not just about more machines, but about **better models of care, smarter financing, and bold innovation**. MOH remains committed to **expanding preventive health programmes, enhancing screening and early detection in primary care, ensuring equitable access across Malaysia and supporting research and innovation**.

11. Above all, equity must be the guiding-light of our efforts. **No Malaysian, whether in the heart of the city or in the remotest *kampung*, should be left behind in accessing quality kidney care.**

12. And this is not the government's task alone, but a **whole-of-society effort** — uniting NGOs, professional bodies, industry, and civil society — moving together in solidarity.

Ladies and gentlemen,

13. As we move forward, let us remember: behind every statistic is a patient, a family, a community. Our mission is not only to treat disease, but to **restore dignity and hope**.

14. On behalf of the Ministry of Health, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to NKF and the organising committee on this milestone. On that note, with the holy verse of Bismillahirrahmanirrahim, I am hereby pleased to officially declare the **18th Annual Dialysis Conference (ADC 2025)** open.

Thank you. Wabillahitaufik Walhidayah Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.