



CODE LIFE CARNIVAL 2025

Giving Hope: Raising Awareness on the Life-Changing Power of Organ Donation in Malaysia

Recognising the critical gap between pledged organ donors and actual transplants, the National Kidney Foundation Malaysia (NKF) brought the Community Organ Donation Drive (CODE Life) to the community level through the CODE Life Carnival 2025: Masih Ada Yang Sayang.

The carnival took place on 22 June 2025 at DPulze Shopping Centre, Cyberjaya, and aimed to raise public awareness on a larger scale about the importance of organ donation and kidney transplants.



The day kicked off with the energetic Kidney Rush Run, organised together with JomRun, drawing nearly 1,400 runners whose presence symbolised unity and renewed hope for Malaysians waiting for a second chance at life.



The event's officiating ceremony was graced by Ybrs Dr Mohd Syafiq Ismail bin Azman, Director of the National Transplant Resource Centre (NTRC), along with Dato' Dr Zaki Morad Mohamed Zaher, Chairman of National Kidney Foundation Malaysia (NKF), and Dr Norlen bin Mohamed, Chief of Division Centres for Disease Control and Prevention at Ministry of Health (MOH).

In their addresses, they reminded the public that while over 400,000 Malaysians have pledged to donate their organs since 1997, more than 10,000 patients including children still wait for a kidney transplant today, reflecting how crucial family awareness and consent in bridging this gap.

EMPOWERING ORGAN DONORS

One of the main highlights of the day was the dedicated sharing sessions which offered real experiences from both donors and recipients. The donor session, moderated by Dr Muhammad Iqbal Abdul Hafidz, a nephrologist from UiTM Puncak Alam.

The session featured by En. Padli Bin Saed, who shared his journey of donating a kidney to his brother-in-law. He shared that the need for the donor to undergo thorough, and lengthy health check-ups before the operation, and how workplace unable to support medical leave after the operation are still challenges for many donors.



Puan Wardahanisah Bt Razali, another panelist, shared how even after she donated her kidney to her sister at a young age, she is still healthy until now and even able to give birth to a cute and healthy little girl. She also shared that living donors receive hospital fee exemptions and priority hospital services during pregnancy and delivery in government hospital, proving that donors are not forgotten by the healthcare system.

LIVING PROOF: FIRSTHAND JOURNEYS OF LIFE AFTER TRANSPLANT

Equally impactful was the kidney recipient sharing session, moderated by En Rothwazar Mohamed Hasbullah with panelists Encik Khairul Shazwali Bin Taib and Puan M. Vilurdena a/p Munusamy.

They spoke of the lengthy work-up process, from physical tests to securing donor commitment, the mental strain of dialysis, and the relief that comes with a successful transplant. Encik Shazwali stressed how vital it is for recipients to follow medication and infection prevention steps after surgery.

Puan Dena's story stood out as she balanced full-time work while undergoing thrice-weekly dialysis, sharing how her employer's support crucial for her recovery and how her transplant gave her hope for the future.



FINANCIAL AIDS RELATED TO ORGAN TRANSPLANTS IN MALAYSIA



The carnival also provided a discussion on financial aid support available for patients and families.

Representatives from Lembaga Zakat Selangor explained there was annual funding that can help cover medical costs, while the MySalam scheme was highlighted as extra insurance protection for low-income families which the patient eligible to claim hospitalization costs at government hospitals and receive one-off payments for critical illnesses. PERKESO representatives spoke about the Housewives' Social Security Scheme and the Self-Employment Social Security Scheme, which provide income replacement for dialysis or transplant patients. They also introduced the Return-to-Work (RTW) programme to help patients return to employment after major treatment.

UNDERSTANDING ALLOCATION FOR ORGAN DONATION IN MALAYSIA



Participants also gained insights through a special session titled Understanding Organ Allocation in Malaysia. Dr Mohamad Zaimi bin Abdul Wahab, President of the Malaysian Society of Transplantation (MST) and Chairperson of the Malaysian Kidney Allocation System (MyKAS) Committee, together with Dr Hasdy Haron, Deputy Director of the National Transplant Resource Centre (NTRC), explained how the MyKAS system uses the Estimated Post-Transplant Survival Score (EPTS) to prioritize patients for better outcomes.

With this, patients can be listed for transplantation after three months of dialysis if they meet EPTS requirements. Compatibility, age and health status are all factors taken into consideration to make sure the organs are distributed fairly. However, they reminded that family consent of the organ donor pledger remains the key deciding factor to enable the transplantation to happen, therefore it is important to make open conversations about your will to donate your organs to your family members.

Beyond these sessions, visitors explored health exhibition booths, free health screenings, blood donation booth, petting zoo, kids' fashion show, and performances by artists such as Along Eyzendy, a kidney recipient himself which his performance reminded everyone that second chances are truly possible.



Bringing together real stories, expert guidance and community spirit, the CODE Life Carnival 2025 showed how public awareness, family support and accessible information can help turn pledges into real hope for thousands of Malaysians in need of a life-saving transplant. NKF remains committed in making every pledge count, every family is informed, and no patient is left waiting in vain.