

# Gift of van to ferry dialysis patients for treatment

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Photo by S.S.KANESAN

DIALYSIS patients of MAA Medicare Kidney Charity Fund (Medicare) in Jalan Sungai Besi, Kuala Lumpur were all smiles when they received a new 12-seater Pregio van from SP Setia Foundation recently.

Worth RM78,500, the van will now be used to ferry patients from their homes to receive treatment at the centre.

The event, which took place at MAA Dialysis Centre in Jalan Sungai Besi, saw the handing over of a mock key by SP Setia chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye to Medicare board member and medical advisor Datin Dr Norella Kong. Also present to witness the presentation ceremony were SP Setia Foundation CEO Capt Datuk Liew Siong Sing and Medicare vice president Aliyah Karen.

"It is an honour to be of service to the lower income group, the elderly and the disabled, who are receiving treatment at Medicare.

"We hope that the van will be put to good use and the centre would maintain it well in order to cater to those in need," Lee told a press conference at Medicare in Jalan Sungai Besi, before presenting the vehicle. This is the third time the foundation is contributing towards the centre.

About 30 patients from three Medicare centres in Jalan Sungai Besi, Jalan Ipoh and Kajang will benefit from the service, which will ease their financial burden and reduce their travelling time.

Lee said the foundation had in the past donated a dialysis machine in 2000 and 2009.

"To date, we have donated RM168,500 to Medicare, which is inclusive of the van," he said, urging other corporate companies to help centres that are run by non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

SP Setia Foundation launched the Haemodialysis Treatment Subsidy Programme in Aug 2008, of which RM600,000 was allocated for the programme aimed at assisting various NGOs.



**Brand new:** Haemodialysis patient S. Tamal Selvan, 57, receiving the mock key to the van. Standing from left are Lee, Dr Kong and Liew.