

Headline	Price of too many fizzy drinks?
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## Price of too many fizzy drinks?

KUALA LUMPUR: A former Asst Architect who has been suffering kidney disease for 17 years and been a diabetic since he was 28 said he used to drink fizzy drinks four times a day, smoke and hardly did exercise.

Nik Johaimy Mohd is now living life to the fullest by bringing joy to others through his wife's cake business.

The 45-year-old was also diagnosed with end stage renal failure or kidney failure six months ago.

He began undergoing dialysis, sitting by a haemodialysis machine for four hours, three times a week at the MAA Medicare Charitable Foundation.

"I had to stop work due to my health, but now I help my wife with her business, where we bake and sell cakes for weddings and birthdays."

Nik is awaiting his doctor's approval so that he can join Socso's (social security organisation) Return To Work programme, which helps workers start work again after a debilitating injury or illness.

Initially devastated by the news that one of his kidneys was not functioning, he said the support from friends, families and the MAA pulled him through.

"Now I am living a healthier lifestyle

by cutting down on sugary drinks and other habits and I hope to rejoin the workforce one day."

Nik was using the foundation's new haemodialysis machine worth RM42,000, donated by Eco World Foundation.

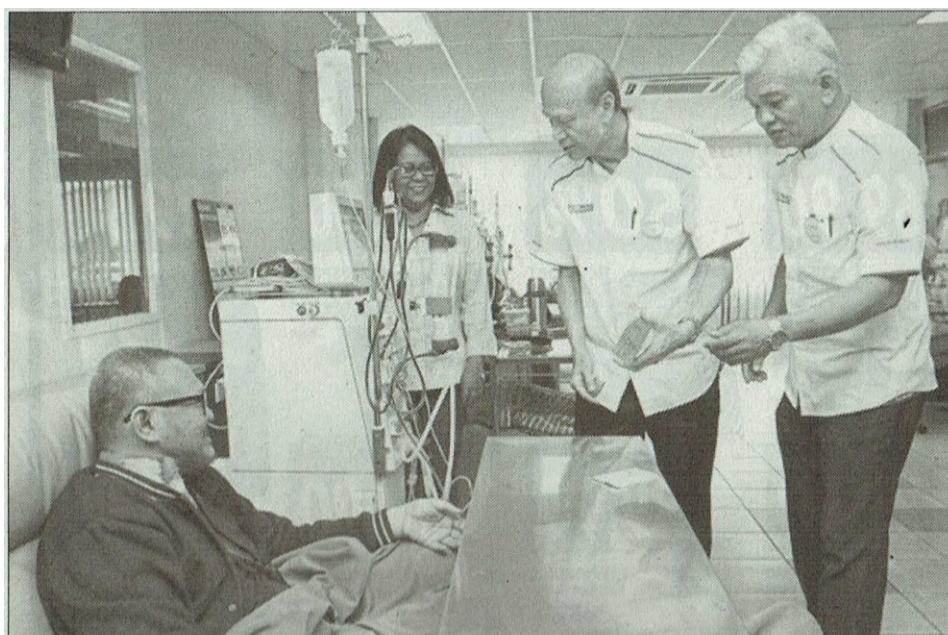
Eco World Foundation chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye and chief executive officer Capt (Rtd) Datuk Liew Siong Sing were at the handing over ceremony.

Lee said that dialysis was a lifeline until the patients could get a transplant.

"This is the first time Eco World Foundation is making a contribution to a non-profit haemodialysis centre and it won't be the last."

MAA Medicare Kidney Charity Fund, an arm of the foundation, is the second largest non-profit provider in Malaysia providing highly subsidised treatment and care for 830 patients at its 12 centres nationwide.

A single dialysis session costs between RM220 and RM260 and between RM160 and RM200 for a re-use session (where a dialyser is cleaned and re-used by the same patient the next session), but the fund subsidises it to less than RM100 and sometimes it is given to patients for free, depending on their income.



Lee (second right) talking to Nik (left) at the handing over of the new dialysis machine.