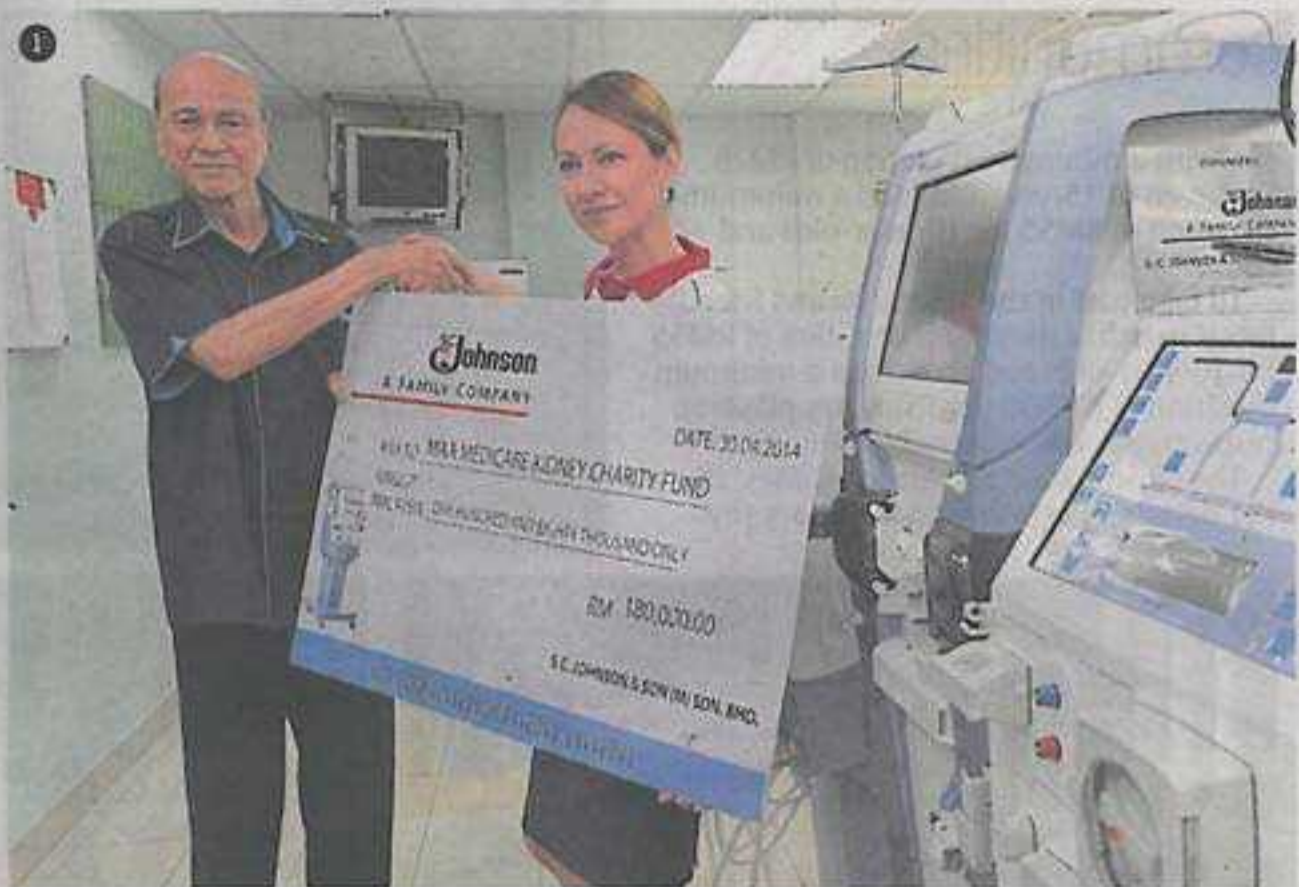


# Making healthcare a priority

Company donates three dialysis machines worth RM180,000 to kidney charity fund

- 1 Lee (left) accepting the mock cheque of RM180,000 from Ronski at Wisma MAA Medicare in Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur.
- 2 Patients at the MAA Medicare Charity Dialysis centre in Teluk Intan will be gifted with 3 new dialysis machines and disposables worth RM180,000



By STEVEN DANIEL  
stevend@thestar.com.my

**T**HE public and corporations are urged to consider healthcare when planning their corporate social responsibility programmes.

Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye said as the cost of living goes up, so are the medical fees, and this was making it difficult for those with chronic illnesses such as kidney disease which requires dialysis.

Lee, a member of the board of trustees for MAA Medicare Kidney Charity Fund (MAA Medicare), said this in thanking S.C. Johnson & Son (M) Sdn Bhd for donating three dialysis machines worth RM180,000.

"I thank S.C. Johnson for recognising healthcare as part of their corporate social responsibility initiative as many people are in dire need of medical attention but cannot afford it.

"All three machines are capable of saving the lives of 18 patients, who will undergo dialysis for the next seven to eight years of the estimated lifespan of the machines," Lee said during the handing over of the new machines at the Wisma MAA Medicare recently.

To mark the occasion, a machine-tagging ceremony and a mock cheque presentation was also held.

One of the machines is a state-of-the-art

Haemodiafiltration (HDF), which is completely automated.

MAA Medicare senior manager Dr Azman Mohd Sharif said most patients who were undergoing treatment using this machine felt more comfortable.

"The three machines will be placed at our dialysis centre in Teluk Intan, which has recently relocated to bigger and more spacious premises.

"Currently, we have 13 machines there that cater to 70 patients. The HDF machine will be the first located in the northern region.

"We already have six nationwide; three at the Jalan Ipoh centre, two in Johor Baru and one in Kota Kinabalu," said MAA Medicare chief executive officer Aliyah Karen.

S.C. Johnson & Son senior director and general manager Cristina Ronski said, "We feel fortunate to be able to channel our CSR efforts through MAA Medicare".

MAA Medicare is the second-largest dialysis provider in Malaysia, caring for 830 patients in 12 centres nationwide.

**All three machines are capable of saving the lives of 18 patients.**

— TAN SRI LEE LAM THYE

