

COMFORTDELGRO



**COMFORTDELGRO CABBIES DONATE
NEW HAEMODIAFILTRATION MACHINES
TO KIDNEY DIALYSIS FOUNDATION**

8 March 2018 – Madam Wong, who receives subsidised dialysis treatments at the Kidney Dialysis Foundation (KDF) Bishan Centre three times a week, will soon be receiving treatment on brand new haemodiafiltration (HDF) machines.

The Centre is receiving three ONLINE HDF 5008S machines today – for free – all thanks to CabbyCare Charity Group (CabbyCare), ComfortDelGro Taxi, as well as Mdm Lim Choo Eng, wife of the late ComfortDelGro Cabby Cheng Teck Hock¹, who have forked out a combined total of \$72,000 to sponsor these new machines in conjunction with World Kidney Day. The current mobile haemodialysis machines at the KDF Bishan Centre are about seven to eight years old, and will be gradually replaced by these new HDF machines within this year.

This is the first time that KDF, a non-profit charitable dialysis provider, has brought in this new HDF machine from Germany. It comes with added technical functions to improve the efficacy of dialysis treatment. Generally, regular haemodialysis machines function via the principle of diffusion and only small and medium bio-waste molecules can be cleared from the patient's blood. However, the new machine works on the main principle of convection, where small, medium and large bio-waste molecules are cleared from the blood, resulting in the improvement and correction of a number of clinical conditions that affect dialysis patients. Hence, patients are expected to achieve better outcomes.

This is not the first time that CabbyCare, which is made up of 200 ComfortDelGro volunteer cabbies, has donated kidney dialysis machines to KDF. It raised \$140,000 to purchase four machines for KDF 15 years ago. CabbyCare has also been providing KDF patients with taxi trips for their excursions and events – for free in recent years.

¹ Cabby Cheng Teck Hock was the ComfortDelGro cabby who was involved in a fatal collision with a Ferrari along Victoria Street in 2012. He was survived by his wife, Mdm Lim Choo Eng and their three children. The public's compassionate response to their plight led to an outpouring of donations.

Said CabbyCare Chairman, Mr Kanapathy Shunmugam: "CabbyCare has had a good partnership with KDF since we donated the four kidney dialysis machines in 2004. So, when we heard that KDF needed to upgrade its kidney dialysis machines this year, we immediately offered to sponsor three and are glad that we did."

Mr Ang Wei Neng, Chief Executive Officer of ComfortDelGro Taxi, who witnessed the presentation of the new HDF machines today, said: "ComfortDelGro cabbies are not only good drivers, bringing passengers from point A to point B, but they also have big hearts to care about the less fortunate Singaporeans. They have foregone fares on countless occasions to deliver bread and meals, to give free rides to the needy, and raised funds to give new HDF machines to those who need them the most."

Mr Chan Soo Sen, Board member of KDF, said: "We at KDF are very excited to commence HDF at our Bishan dialysis centre. We are grateful to CabbyCare, ComfortDelGro Taxi and others in the community for supporting our efforts towards serving our patients."

Mdm Wong, 57, said: "As I am no longer working due to my health condition, I feel very fortunate to receive subsidised dialysis at KDF and I look forward to trying the new HDF machine."

CabbyCare Charity Group

CabbyCare Charity Group was initiated and formed in February 2000 by eight CityCab cabbies who wanted to spend their time more productively by helping the less fortunate. It then grew to its current size of 200 members and is very active in various community projects. CabbyCare was given the Outstanding New Volunteerism Initiative Award by the National Volunteer Centre in November 2002 and the President's Service Social Award in August 2003.

Kidney Dialysis Foundation

Kidney Dialysis Foundation (KDF) is a non-profit charitable organisation that provides subsidised dialysis treatment to needy members of our community. KDF is focused on a niche group of patients, who are from the lower income group and referred by medical social workers from restructured hospitals. Most of these patients – if employed – hold jobs such as cleaners, hawker assistants, store assistants and taxi drivers. KDF has IPC status and is a proud recipient of the Charity Transparency Award for 2016 and 2017.