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# Dr M stable after bypass surgery

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has come out from bypass surgery and is in a very stable condition, according to his daughter, Datuk Marina Mahathir.

However, she said he is still unconscious and in the intensive care unit.

"Everything went on well during the surgery and he is in good hands," Marina told reporters at the lobby of the National Heart Institute (IJN).

The operation was carried out by a team headed by cardiac surgeon Tan Sri Dr Yahya Awang.

Marina said the family is relieved that the surgery, which took about four-and-a-half hours, was over.

"We are very relieved and tired. I just want to go home and get a good sleep," she said.

Asked if it was the family's idea to bring in Dr Hartzell Schaff, the chief cardiac surgeon at the Mayo Clinic in the US, to assist in the operation, Marina said: "You will have to check with IJN. They made all the arrangements."

In her blog, *Rantings by MM*, Marina had said Schaff would assist. She said he had operated several times with Yahya at IJN before.

Marina said her mother Tun Dr Siti Hasmah and her

other siblings are fine despite some emotional moments.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak and his wife Datin Rosmah Mansor arrived at the centre at 2.45pm and left at 3.10pm. He did not have the chance to see Mahathir as he was still in the ICU, but managed to speak to Yahya.

Mahathir was admitted to IJN at 11pm on Sunday and underwent the elective coronary bypass surgery from 9.40am to 3:05pm.

It was his second coronary bypass surgery. He had undergone the first at Kuala Lumpur Hospital on Jan 24, 1989, following a heart attack.

In a statement yesterday evening, IJN said Mahathir has successfully undergone surgery and is being ward-ed in the ICU where his condition will be monitored for the next few days – a post-bypass surgery routine.

It said the next 48 hours would be the crucial post-operative care period and Mahathir would be under close observation by a team of doctors and nurses. He would be fully sedated overnight.

IJN said the doctors were happy that the procedure progressed as anticipated and Mahathir's vital parameters were stable.

The other members of the surgical team were Datuk Dr Rozali Wathooth, Datuk Dr Azhari Yakub, Datuk Dr Venugopal Balchand and Dr Mohamed Ezani Mohd Taib.