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Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Najib Razak** having a chat with the doctors of **Shah Alam Hospital** yesterday. Pic courtesy of prime minister's Facebook page

## 'Healthcare is BN's top priority'

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**SHAH ALAM:** Healthcare will continue to be a priority of the government, as shown through the expansion of services to cater to the increasing demands on government hospitals, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said yesterday.

He visited the new Shah Alam Hospital yesterday to assess the budget implementation. He was also briefed on the hospital's progress.

He said the government had made significant allocations in the budgets of recent years towards the welfare of patients, particularly those with chronic ailments, such as

kidney disease.

"The government allocated significant funds each year for medical aid and to cover the cost of procuring haemodialysis machines for government hospitals," said Najib.

He said the haemodialysis unit at Shah Alam Hospital could treat 78 kidney patients each week, with 20 new haemodialysis machines.

"On top of that, patients undergoing haemodialysis only need to pay RM13 per session at government hospitals, as compared with RM200 to RM250 at private hospitals."

He said Shah Alam Hospital

would relieve the pressure on Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Hospital in Klang and other government hospitals in the Klang Valley.

"The Barisan Nasional government has long provided high quality medical treatment at low cost to the people, and will continue this policy as long as the government can afford it.

"Government hospitals do not charge patients for specialist consultations and charge a low rate for medicines and other services. Compare that to the rates of private hospitals. The government cares about people in need," said Najib.