

POH YUK IS THE FIRST ASIAN!

You would recall that Poh Yuk underwent a heart procedure on 15-11-2014. This procedure required the implant of a device known as the Watchman Device into the heart. It is a permanent implant that reduces your risk of a stroke. (Following this successful procedure, I sent out a letter thanking all my friends for their prayers and support – Letter attached)

Poh Yuk became the first person in the country to have gone through this procedure in a government hospital.

Two weeks ago, the Boston Scientific, the producers of the Watchman Device contacted Poh Yuk and asked her if she could be interviewed. Poh Yuk wanted to know why.

She was told that Boston Scientific had set up a huge factory at Batu Kawan to manufacture cardiac products. When completed the factory would have 2,000 employees. Their products will be available world-wide.

She was further informed that up to this point they had interviewed only westerners, mostly Caucasians, who had spoken about the benefits they enjoyed after treatment.

Poh Yuk asked what was the purpose of this interview that they proposed to carry out? They clarified that this was meant to be educational and to raise awareness among the public and doctors as well.

On this basis, Poh Yuk agreed.

On 7 September, they came to fetch us and then we went to their factory in Batu Kawan using the 2nd Bridge.

The interview was very professionally conducted with a director, cameramen, lighting, proper sound system, etc.

After that they suggested that we go to the Youth Park for more shots. At the Youth Park they cordoned off certain areas and took more shots at various places and angles. It was a pity that there were no coconut trees. Otherwise, it would have turned out to be a Bollywood production with me chasing Poh Yuk around the trees!

Thus Poh Yuk became the first Asian to be interviewed and publicized in their webpage. They have also taken a big poster of Poh Yuk to adorn a wall in their factory in Batu Kawan together with the other Americans who have been displayed prominently.

They wanted Poh Yuk to suggest a quote to add on to the poster and she suggested, "Thank you Boston Scientific. You gave me back my life!" While all the other poster personalities mentioned how they had recovered after treatment, none thanked Boston Scientific. In that sense, Poh Yuk also became the first poster person to thank them specifically.

Last night they forwarded the link to watch Poh Yuk's interview which I'm sharing with all of you.

Have a pleasant viewing:

Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkMo_h4jPTM

With very warm regards,
RAMA

**THANK YOU GOD! THANK YOU MY DEAR
FRIENDS!!- From Rama on 16-11-2014**

My dear Friends,

Yesterday I was on tenterhooks. The anaesthetist spoke to Poh Yuk and told her that when anesthetized the risks would be high: she may not wake up; she may have a heart attack; she may have a stroke. He had to explain very clearly the dangers involved and after that Poh

Yuk was asked to give her consent to go ahead with the procedure. Poh Yuk signed the form. She was not perturbed!

But I was. It disturbed me greatly. I was very apprehensive. I just kept thinking if the unthinkable were to happen what am I to do? Can I survive after that? It was very frightening. You feel helpless and hopeless.

I prayed very earnestly as never before – many times. I did not sleep well.

I got up at 5.30 this morning and together with my daughter dashed to the hospital so that we could spend some time with Poh Yuk. The doctor on duty prepared her by inserting the usual needles on her wrists and what not so that they could administer the anaesthesia at the OT. Just before 8 am she was taken to the OT. She was kept in the Recovery Room.

Around 8.20 the doctor called us and explained the procedure. They would perform the surgery around 9.30. It would take about two hours or so. She would be kept in the Recovery Room for about two hours after which she would be sent back to the ward.

He also told us that as far as the Ministry of Health was concerned Poh Yuk would be the first person in the country to go through this procedure. This has been done in IJN but IJN is semi-private. As far as the Ministry of Health is concerned Poh Yuk would be the first person!

Then the anaesthetist prepared her for the procedure after which she was wheeled into the OT around 8.50am.

Leo Turner (60-61), the Secretary of Penang Kirkby Reunion, came and kept us company while we waited outside the OT. Later V P Mohan (1955-57) joined us. All four of us waited anxiously.

Just after 12 noon, the doctor called us and told that the surgery was successful. Poh Yuk would be brought to the Recovery Room later.

Around 12.45 when I took a peep into the Recovery Room, I saw Poh Yuk with the oxygen mask on her face. She was groggy; opened her eyes slightly, saw me and said she was going to sleep.

Around 3 pm she was sent to the ward with the oxygen tubes fixed to her nostrils. By evening she was lucid and around 8 pm took some porridge. She is bright and cheerful!

I want to thank the Kirkby family for the prayers, the concern that they showed very genuinely. I received nearly 60 emails, many text messages and numerous calls. You people overwhelmed me with your warmth. I was never alone because the sms and calls kept coming continuously.

One person went on a fast; someone got up at 4 am to pray for Poh Yuk; another said that she was going to storm the heaven with her prayers. Some were still praying in Australia without knowing that Poh Yuk had come out of the OT. Someone else wanted our bank account number to make a donation. I assured the person there was no cost involved.

The close bond and the friendship that I experienced were simply marvelous. This is a great Kirkby family and I am so proud to be part of that family.

In times of crisis the moral support is so comforting. You have to be in such a situation to realise what it means to have caring friends.

I want to thank every one of you from the bottom of my heart for your friendship and support. We are very grateful to all of you.
Thank you very much.

With very warm regards,
RAMA 16-11-2014