
Prayer during dialysis

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: mtws.posthaven.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Question: He says oh noble Shaykh, may Allaah grant you success: A man has undergone dialysis in the hospital for the past eight months. He begins dialysis before Maghrib prayer and the process continues for four hours. For the past eight months he has combined Maghrib and Isha prayers together while lying on the bed, connected to the blood tubes, with blood entering and blood exiting his body.

His question: Was his prayer during this time period valid or invalid? And also, sometimes the bed is facing the direction of prayer and sometimes it is not. So what should he do if his prayers were not correct?

Shaykh Saalih al-Fawzaan (حفظه الله)¹: The problem of the common folks is they do not ask, they pray without asking questions, this is not permissible. It is not permissible for him to pray during dialysis, because he does not have wudoo. Things enter and exit from his body; he does not have wudoo in this condition.

As for the prayer, he can combine the prayers at a delayed time. If he begins dialysis before the time for Dhuhr prayer enters for example, then he intends to delay the prayers. Thus when dialysis is over, even if it is at the final moments of the second prayer (Asr), meaning right before sunset; then he combines Dhuhr and Asr at the delayed time. And if he starts dialysis before Maghrib then he intends to delay Maghrib and combine it with Isha even if it is before Fajr enters.

But he does not pray during dialysis, this is not permissible; because he is not in a state of purification. And he was also not facing the direction of prayer. Thus he should delay his prayers. But if the time for prayer enters before the start of dialysis then he combines the prayers at the earlier time. He prays the later prayer with the earlier prayer before he begins dialysis.

¹ (حفظه الله) May Allaah the Most High preserve him