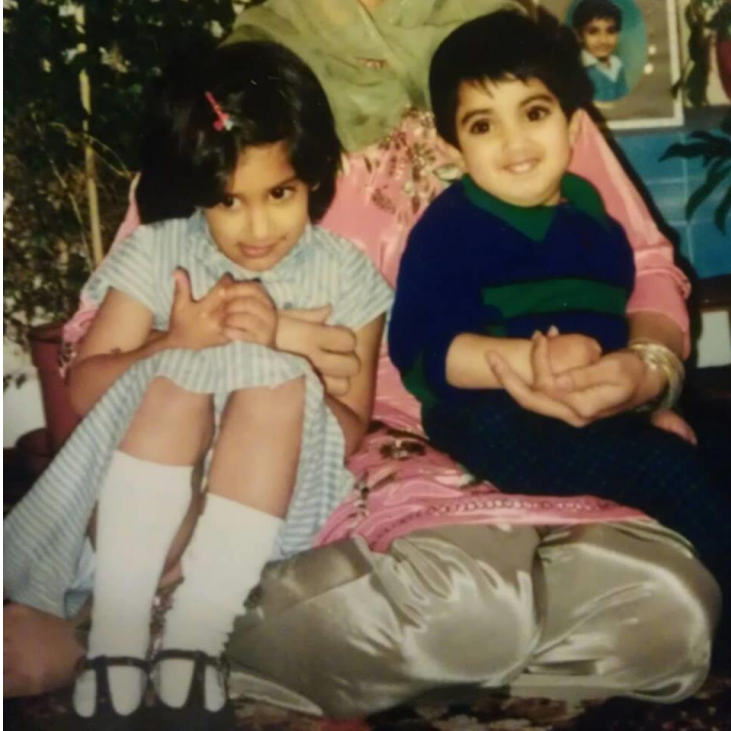


Faizan Awan

A Mini Photographic Journey

Home After First Transplant



The Car Was Just There





In Hospital After Transplant

Taking Growth Hormone, Aim To Show Other Y.P It's Not That Scary.

Psst it was i hated needles

The Young People Had An Idea For A Santa Fez



Santa Fez Was Born



Award Lifetime Achievement Award In Volunteering



Finally At Home With Machine (Pre Nocturnal)



Representing KPA & Sharing My Story To Media Outlets



FAIZANFEATURE (1).pdf

file:///C:/Users/chris/Downloads/FAIZANFEATURE%20(1).pdf

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A

ll around him Faizan Awan sees people his own age getting married and starting families. However, for Faizan, things are very different and his daily thoughts are taken up with having the dialysis that keeps him alive and hoping he receives a third kidney transplant to give him a better quality of life.

Faizan, 33, says: "My priorities are different but it is sad for me as I would love to be like my peers and doing normal things like having a relationship and starting a family. But instead I have to worry about being on a dialysis machine, changing my dressings and hoping I'll get the kidney transplant I need."

Faizan has spent his life battling kidney problems after being diagnosed with kidney reflux at birth. The condition meant urine flowed backward from the bladder to the kidneys and damaged them. Doctors tried to correct the condition when Faizan was just six weeks old but it was not successful and his kidneys ended up failing.

Faizan had his first kidney transplant at the age of three

and received a kidney from a deceased person. This kidney lasted for around 30 years but then his kidneys began declining and working less and less.

Faizan explains: "I started having bouts of infections and rejections and, when I was about 13 or 14, my kidneys had completely given up. I had to start dialysis at the age of 14 and had peritoneal dialysis at home. I had the dialysis overnight for 12 hours and had to go to bed at 7pm so I would be ready for school."

During this time, Faizan's dad, Khalid, was getting prepared to be a donor and, in May 2000, Faizan received a kidney from his dad in a live donation.

Faizan says: "I was so grateful when my dad donated a kidney to me and it changed my life immensely."

Faizan lived a normal and stable life after the transplant from his dad, but in the last couple of years, he started experiencing problems again and now his kidney has pretty much failed.

Faizan, who lives in Blackburn, is now back on dialysis and is now on haemodialysis, which is a process of purifying the blood.

Faizan spent six weeks at Chorley and South Ribblesdale Hospital learning how to administer the dialysis himself so he can do it at home. He explains: "After the transplant from my dad, I lived a much more normal life. I still had to take medication and be care-

ful around contact sports but apart from that, life was great."

"I went to Beardwood High School and, after finishing, I began applying for colleges. But then I started picking up lots of infections and ended up getting ill with meningitis. I started college later than people my own age and studied film and media production at Blackburn College.

"After that, I took a year out to save up for university and did summer jobs. I then went to Sheffield Hallam University and studied media production and my first year went swimmingly. However, in my

second year things started going wrong with my kidney again and I started getting infections. I ended up withdrawing from university and being admitted to hospital."

Faizan was put on emergency dialysis and medicines managed to slow the deterioration of his kidney but the damage was irreversible.

Faizan went back on dialysis in December and is now on the organ donation waiting list for a third transplant.

Faizan says: "I could not go back to university so I started volunteering at Blackburn Youthzone and have done my youth work qualifications."

"I am hoping to do this work properly when I have a kidney that allows me to hold down a full-time job."

"I am on haemodialysis four times a week for about three hours a time. Unfortunately, the fistula in my arm decided to block up so I had to go into Royal Preston Hospital after a week and I now have a line in my neck for the dialysis instead. I am having issues sleeping as it is weird trying to sleep with the neck-line in. I also suffer from achy bones."

Despite everything he has been through, Faizan refuses to feel sorry for himself and wants to raise awareness of the importance of organ donation - particularly among the Asian community where donation levels are low. Faizan says: "Doctors have told me that, due to a build-up of antibodies because of my previous

transplants and because of the lack of donations from the Asian community, they estimate the wait this time will be approximately eight years.

"It just seems like every so often my life just stops and it goes at a much slower and cautious speed to other people my age. But I have got used to that and have accepted my life is going to be different. I am grateful I am still alive and hope it will be three time lucky with my transplant."

Faizan's mum, Parveen, works hard to raise awareness of kidney donation and runs the Blackburn and District Kidney Support group.

Faizan himself has recently joined the committee for the Lancashire and South Cumbria kidney patients association.

He says: "I think there are a lot of myths and a lack of understanding in the BME community about organ donation and some people think it is against the religion. What ever you believe in says you should help your fellow man."

"The way I see it is if you were in a similar situation, would you accept an organ if you would, it is only right that you should be prepared to donate, too. The more we can get people to talk about the issue, the more we can educate them and raise awareness. Those people who have made the decision to donate need to let their family know their wishes as they can still say no."

"Conversion is key."

Faizan Awan in his bedroom with the dialysis machine he has named Big Bertha

The more we can get people to talk about the issue, the more we can educate them

Faizan on donation debates

1628 10/07/2017

Events I Have Been A Part Of



Question Time
Organ Donation

NHS Blood and Transplant

Save the Dates
12th & 13th June 2019
Venues 6 times to follow

An opportunity to have dialogue and ask questions around Organ Donation

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



Ajmal Masroor Angela Ditchfield Dr. Mansur Ali Faizan Awan

For enquiries & to register interest contact us on 01254 392974
office@lancashrbmenetwork.org.uk

LANCASHIRE BME NETWORK
Leading change through empowerment

L&SC



BME HEROES Kidney Care UK
CONSEQUENCES L&SC
"Final answers" Blood and Transplant

NHS Lancashire Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Organ Donation Week
Time to talk

Thursday 5th September
Accrington Town Hall

Two free sessions
3.30–5 pm and 6–7.30 pm

For all the family with children's activities provided by Just Imagine. Have a health check

Topics: Organ donation update • Opt out system • Organ donation within the BME community

Speakers – transplant patients community, transplant surgeon, nephrologist and specialist nurses.



To register visit address below or scan the QR code above:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/organ-donation-week-time-to-talk-tickets-66557387939>
or ring: 01772 528254 07752065361

Excellent care with compassion

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals

@Lancshospitals



LANCASHIRE BME NETWORK
Leading change through empowerment

L&SC Blood and Transplant

'It Could Be You'
Organ Donation Launch Event

Monday 4th March 2019
10am - 1pm



Bangor Street Community Centre
Norwich Street
Blackburn
BB1 6NZ

To reserve your ticket, visit: [itcouldbeyouorgandonation.eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/it-could-be-you-organ-donation-launch-event-tickets-66557387939)
or for more information, call us on 01254 392974

To find out more, visit
organ donation.nhs.uk

 **Yes I donate**
ORGAN DONATION

Local Asian Tv Coverage of the 'It Could Be You' Launch Event



Me & Other Speakers



Promoting O.D At A Health Mela



The Workshop I Arranged To Promote O.D In BAME Community



Pre Brexit Holiday With My Brother in Greece



Renal Friends



Between Us We Have 5 Kidneys Only 1 Functioning



Contact Details



@FEZY



Fez Awan

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=wB_Kqdj1Nfo&list=PLj4wHu2TagPtfYFYgym-5C0QoPJMAita&index=9&t=0s