

Dialysis on the go



Picture: LIANHE ZAOBAO

- ◆ *This Automated Wearable Artificial Kidney (Awak) is set for clinical trials at Singapore General Hospital by the end of the year, pending approval from the US Food and Drug Administration. It is mounted on a vest and can be worn anywhere so that kidney patients will no longer be confined to a dialysis centre for hours during treatment. Two US doctors, Dr David Lee, 67, and Dr Martin Roberts, 87, both from UCLA, have been working on the prototype since 1986. They have partnered Singapore's Temasek Polytechnic and a startup firm, Awak Technologies, to refine and package it. There are also plans to cut the 3kg weight by half.*