

222148 - What should the patient who is suffering from diabetes and high blood pressure do about fasting in Ramadan?

the question

Can a Muslim pay the fidyah (compensation) for the days that he did not fast, even if he was healthy, because he is suffering from diabetes and high blood pressure? Can he feed a poor person once or twice? He works overseas and has come to his own country for a month-long vacation.

Detailed answer

Patients who have diabetes and high blood pressure are not all the same. Rather doctors divide them into various categories. Some of them are able to fast safely, if they adhere to medical guidelines, and others cannot fast.

But if diabetes and high blood pressure occur together, then fasting is more difficult for the patient.

Based on that, the patient should consult his doctor and do whatever the doctor advises with regard to fasting or not fasting. Not every person who is sick is permitted to break the fast, as has been explained in fatwa no. [1319](#).

Secondly:

As diabetes and high blood pressure are chronic diseases, in most cases the patient who does not fast because of them will never be able to make up those fasts. Therefore what he must do is feed one poor person for each day that he does not fast, and he does not have to make up the fasts.

What is meant by feeding a poor person is giving him one meal, and the patient has the choice between making food and inviting the poor person to come and eat, or giving it to him, cooked

or raw. If he does one of these three options, then he has fed a poor person and has done what is required of him, as has been explained in fatwas no. [49944](#) and [101100](#).

And Allah knows best.