

06/09/1997

400 infected with HIV

NEARLY 400 people are infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, in the country every month. Malaysian Aids Council president Marina Mahathir said by the end of May this year, the number of people infected with the virus or suffered from AIDS-related illnesses was 21,500. She said in Kota Bharu yesterday that the HIV, which spread either through blood transfusion, unsafe sex or from expectant mothers to their babies, had infected 13 people everyday. She also blamed on chronic drug addiction, particularly intravenous drug use and high-risk sexual habits which had rapidly spread the virus.

(END)