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PWA more accurate

IN the article "Pros and Cons of AIDS conference" (Life & Times, July 28), we quoted Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir as referring to people living with HIV/AIDS (PWA) as "HIV/AIDS sufferers".

Actually Marina had used the more politically-correct and positive term PWA.

Eugene Thomas, coordinator for Positive Living, a support group by and for PWA, said the term "PWA" is a more accurate one.

"People do not die of AIDS but of other diseases/complications that attack your body at the onset of AIDS, so technically you are not an 'AIDS sufferer' as such.

"Also, you don't necessarily 'suffer' from HIV as, at this stage of the infection with the virus, life generally goes on as normal," said Thomas.

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