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Don't leave AIDS to NGOs only

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I REFER to the report "AIDS national strategic plan needed" (NST, Dec 2). It is worrying to hear from Malaysian Aids Council chairman Datuk Paduka Marina Mahathir that more than 100,000 Malaysians could be infected.

The number could be more as many victims do not report for fear of being discriminated against. Also, some sufferers seek treatment outside government hospitals. Last year saw some 7,218 new cases.

It isn't enough to see only NGOs working on this. The government machinery must pitch in, too. Not only there is a continuous need for awareness, but efforts must also be geared to providing care and support for its victims.

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