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'HIV test to protect couples'

KANGAR: The requirement for couples wanting to marry in Perlis to go for blood test is not to cause them inconvenience, state Islamic Religious Affairs Committee chairman Jafperi Othman said. He said the test was made compulsory to safeguard the interests of Muslim couples and their marriage. After getting the results of the test, and if the partner was found to be a HIV carrier, it would be up to the couple to decide whether or not to continue with the marriage. He said seven potential brides and bridegrooms were detected as HIV carriers last year and three of them went ahead with their marriage. — Bernama