

Headline	Taiwan health test on students standard procedure		
MediaTitle	New Straits Times		
Date	24 Jul 2012	Color	Black/white
Section	Local News	Circulation	136,530
Page No	6	Readership	330,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	100 cm ²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 1,625
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 4,874



Taiwan health test on students 'standard procedure'

KUALA LUMPUR: Health screening tests conducted on Malaysian students in Taiwan are standard health and epidemic prevention procedures by the Taiwan government.

According to a statement by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (Taiwanese embassy), the health screenings, which include tests for syphilis, tuberculosis and AIDS, were for all foreigners and expatriates who intended to live in the country for a long period of time.

Chief information officer for the Taiwanese embassy Yue Ming Feng said the procedures were also regulated in other countries.

"The procedure was not intended to discriminate Malaysian students in Taiwan. It is a standard procedure that all foreigners, who intend to stay for the long term, have to go through.

"The procedure has been practised by the republic's Department of Health and Disease Control for many years."

Yu was responding to an article by a Chinese daily yesterday that questioned the practice to screen Malaysian students for syphilis.

Countries such as Saudi Arabia, New Zealand and Abu Dhabi are known to have health screening tests for foreigners intending to work or study in the country.

There are 56,000 foreign students in Taiwan and the majority of them are from Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam.

Based on a report by the Republic of China's Education Ministry, 45 per cent of the total number of foreign students in Taiwan's universities were undergoing degree programmes.