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300,000 Malaysians to suffer from HIV/AIDS by 2015

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LABUAN: About 300,000 Malaysians are expected to contract HIV/AIDS by 2015 if programmes to avoid and control the disease are not implemented comprehensively, said Sabah Health Department director Dr Haji Zaini Hussin.

He said this when launching Labuan's World AIDS Day here on Wednesday.

"Even though the number of HIV cases has decreased drastically since 2003, measures still need to be taken to curb the HIV/AIDS

disease with urgency and given priority by all parties such as the government, NGOs, political leaders, religious leaders and members of the public," Zaini said.

Also present were Sabah Health advisory panel chairman Haji Mustapa Tangkim and chairmen of NGOs which include HAWA, Persatuan Ibu Tunggal and Puspanita.

Zaini said that since 1986 until September 2013, there had been 100,843 cases of HIV in the country and of that a total of 19,979 (19.8 per cent) were AIDS patients and 16,165 (16 per cent) involving deaths related to HIV/AIDS.



Zaini (second right) presents a memento to Mustapha