

Headline	New HIV cases drop 50pc - Subramaniam		
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New HIV cases drop 50% – Subramaniam

KUALA LUMPUR: New HIV cases in Malaysia have recorded a drop of over 50 per cent in 11 years, from 6,978 cases reported in 2002 to 3,393 cases last year, said Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam.

He said new HIV infection among drug addicts, the high risk group that

previously recorded the highest rate of new infections, had also shown a consistent drop.

"This is the outcome of the Reducing Harm programme (Injection tools and needle exchange programme and Methadone Replacement Therapy) being launched simultaneously

by the ministry, Malaysian AIDS Council and affiliates in 2006.

"New HIV infection among drug addicts has since then decreased from 53 per cent in 2006 to only 22 per cent last year," he said in his speech at the 12th Malaysian Aids Council biannual meeting here yesterday.