

# 'Upin and Ipin' cheer up children at oncology ward

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By **SHAZA BARBAR**

metro@thestar.com.my



A VISIT from popular cartoon characters Upin and Ipin brought cheers and smiles to the children at Hospital Kuala Lumpur's paediatric oncology ward.

The visit was organised by Life Insurance Association Malaysia's (Liam) community service programme Insurans Hayat Cares in the lead up to Chinese New Year.

Liam's 16-member companies had put together goodie bags filled with toys, stationery and books for about 40 children currently at the ward.

Consultant paediatrician Dr Eni Juraidi Abdul Rahman said the goodie bags and visit by Upin and Ipin "made a difference" to the children who were receiving care in the paediatric oncology ward.

The hospital treats children from newborns to 15-year-olds, and sees close to 150 children a year.

Guided by Eni Juraidi, Liam president Vincent Kwo and AmMetlife chief executive officer Ramzi Toubassy, the goodie bags were distributed to the children

and their caregivers as Upin and Ipin posed for photos with the children.

Mother of two Serena Roseaini Taylor was at the hospital with her one-year-old son Umar Ahmad Shukry.

"It's pretty exciting. Umar cannot appreciate it yet, but my daughter will be so glad. I can see this brings a lot of happiness to the children here," she said.

Mother Ina Ahjalina, whose six-year-old Nur Azwanie Azwren was being treated in the hospital, reiterated Taylor's sentiments.

"My child was in pain and now feels better," she said.

Cancer awareness and research has been prominent in Insurans Hayat Cares projects of late.

"It really touches our hearts to see the children smiling and laughing as we present them the gifts as some of them may be celebrating Chinese New Year in the hospital," said Kwo.

"We believe the spirit of sharing, caring and giving should be an integral part of the life insurance business and we should spread the message of love all year round."



**Cheering them up:** Kwo and consultant paediatrician Dr Eni Juraidi Abdul Rahman with two young patients at Hospital Kuala Lumpur who were excited to meet 'Upin and Ipin'.