

MEDICINE Health

The Official Journal of The Faculty of Medicine UKM



F1G6 Juriza I

HOSPITAL BASED CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Juriza I, Rajini S, R Juanita RL, Vijayalakshmi C

Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The number of children with special needs is on the increasing trend. With the increased awareness among the society regarding the importance of providing a good quality care for these children, more and more parents are now coming forward to seek assessment and treatment for their special children. Being part of UKM Medical Centre, a tertiary teaching hospital in Malaysia, the paediatric clinic received around 400 new neurodevelopmental cases per year. With state of the art neonatal intensive care, extremely low birthweight premature babies are also being saved. These children require a comphrehensive multidisciplinary long term follow up to ensure that they receive the best management. Based on these developments, the Department of Paediatrics has established a Developmental Paediatrics Unit. This unit initially operated in the general paediatric clinics but due to the limited space, a new Child Development Centre was proposed in year 2001. It is the first centre of its kind in Malaysia. The new centre was subsequently fully operational in January 2006. It is run by a team of developmental paediatricians, a clinical psychologist, hospital social worker, counselor with staff nurses and clinic assistants. It caters for multidisciplinary clinics with other specialists and the rehabilitation team besides assessing, diagnosing and following up the children with special needs. The latest addition to the centre is the Suspect Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) clinic. The presentation will highlight the centre's vision, mission and the details of the centre's activities in being one of the centres of excellence in UKM Medical Centre.

Keywords: children with special need, child development centre