**Cheaper and safer way to deliver anti-cancer drugs?**

*Bd Feng Ziejian*

The acid test in the battle against cancer is to find a way to get the drugs to fight tumours without harming healthy cells.

The solution, according to researchers at the Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART), may have found a way to do just that – by recognising the fact that cancer cells are more acidic than healthy ones.

The invention – ultra-small particles which carry the drug and whose outer layer dissolves in an acidic environment – could make treatment cheaper and safer.

**The invention**

Dr Bernard Thong, who heads the department of mechanical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the US, can be controlled well with medication.

In the past, patients would get mainly steroids. Today, anti-malarial and cancer drugs are also used, has improved in the past decade.

**Getting to know the many faces of lupus**

Association opens booth at TSH to raise awareness of disease, increase membership

*Bd Pong Chum Ht*

EVEN as more sufferers seek early treatment for the incurable ailment, the Lupus Association Singapore (LAS) has helped raise awareness, increase membership and bring patients together.

With an eye on arresting the problem of falling lupus patients, the LAS has in the past few years expanded its outreach programme, including public exhibitions. Last year, it opened a booth at Tock Seng Hospital (TSH) in March.

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