

# Media Release

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July 16, 2008

## Royal Perth Hospital's Radiation Protection on show for overseas visitors

Royal Perth Hospital's Medical Engineering and Physics Department played host to two Malaysian visitors this week, as the scientific officers spent two weeks at RPH's Wellington street campus witnessing many aspects of radiation safety in the hospital.

Norlela Hatta and Halimatun Sa'dian Paiman are training in the Radiation Health and Safety Branch of the Ministry of Health in Putrajaya, Malaysia, and are specifically interested in the areas of protection in the use of ionising radiations.

Ms Hatta said being able to come to Royal Perth Hospital and learn how things were done here was very important in their training and development.

"We are particularly interested in examining radiation protection aspects in Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, Ms Hatta said.

"The RPH staff have been really knowledgeable and helpful and the information we are receiving is very useful," said Ms Hatta.

Dr David Causer, Principal Physicist in the Medical Engineering and Physics Department and RPH Radiation Safety Officer, said that a continuing exchange of knowledge and experience between health facilities around the world was important in improving levels of radiation protection in all countries.

RPH has state-of –the-art facilities in Radiation Oncology, Diagnostic Radiology, Nuclear medicine and Laser Medicine, which are of interest to radiation safety professionals in areas where this is still in the developmental stages.

Dr Causer also said that they had engaged in some interesting discussions on the Malaysian approach to the design of medical imaging rooms, which had given him "food for thought."

During their stay Ms Hatta and Ms Paiman will visit the WA Cyclotron facility at SCGA and the Radiation Health department which parallels their department in Kuala Lumpur.

Dr Causer said that this was the first exchange visit of its kind but that he hoped others would take place between Australia, Malaysia and other countries throughout South East Asia in the future.

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