



## **CANCER IN CHILDREN**

Cancer can affect children at any age, from early infancy to the late teens. The common places where cancer develops in children include: The **blood and bone marrow, bone, lymph nodes, brain, kidneys and eyes.**

For a variety of reasons, cancer in children is often difficult to detect in the early stages. Parents or guardians are therefore advised to watch out and be alert for any unusual sign and/or symptom that may occur in their child/children, such as:

- Any unusual lump (mass) or swelling
- Persistent or unexplained fever or illness
- Change in skin colour and unexplained loss of energy
- Excessive, rapid weight loss
- Sudden eye or vision changes
- Frequent headaches, often with vomiting
- Persistent limping, or pain in a bone or joint
- Tendency to bruise easily
- Any sudden bleeding that is difficult to control

**PLEASE NOTE:** Parents or guardians are reminded to take their child/children to their paediatrician, or to the nearest Community Health Clinic to have **REGULAR MEDICAL CHECK-UPS**, and to be properly immunized against certain preventable, childhood communicable diseases that could impair their delicate immune systems, and render them more susceptible to developing cancer.