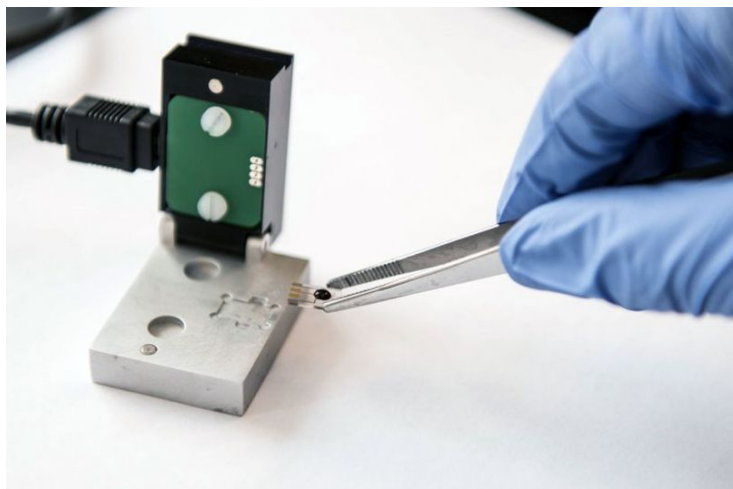


## Researchers in Canada to develop an innovative at-home blood test

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**The technology is still several steps away from being ready to use.**



Université de Montréal's (UdeM) Laboratory of Biosensors & Nanomachines in Canada, in partnership with Montreal company Nanogenecs Diagnostics, has just been awarded a 700 000\$ NSERC 'Idea to Innovation' grant to develop a home blood-testing device for people with chronic illnesses.

In addition to the NSERC grant, the project also received \$240,000 in funding last year from the Quebec Ministry of the Economy and Innovation.

The first goal of the research team is to get the biosensor to detect three biomarkers – urea, potassium and creatinine – in a drop of blood. People with kidney disease and heart disease typically need to keep an eye on these markers.

Currently, blood testing is a multi-step process that usually requires patients to have blood drawn in a clinic or lab. After blood samples are collected in a hospital or clinic, they get sent to a central analysis lab, which is typically located off-site, then the results are forwarded to the doctor and finally shared with the patient.

This new technology aims to change that, so that patients and doctors can get immediate results as part of everyday monitoring. This will allow them to take fast action if something is out of range.

Univalor, UdeM's business-development partner, took out a patent last year to protect the technology.