

Taiwan develops robot to perform nasal swab tests

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Brain Navi, a biotechnology startup based in Taiwan's Hsinchu's Biomedical Science Park, has developed a new robot to perform nasal swab tests autonomously to prevent cross infections so we can save the medical system and reestablish economies.

The coronavirus caused the lock-in policy over the world. To reopen and reboot the economy in this pandemic, a large scale of testing is the essential key and solution, but it needs to be done "safely and effectively."

With the Brain Navi Nasal Swab Robot's assistance, users can test safely around the clock, so as to spare medical health care workers from the high-risk environment during sample collecting. With the unique robotic help, users can control the spread of the virus while waiting for a vaccine and prevent cross-infections.

In the middle of the COVID-19 world pandemic, the Bio Asia Taiwan 2020 exhibition still took place under high safety participation requirements. In this significant event, the Brain Navi Nasal Swab Robot was presented in public for the first time. It was a great honor to demonstrate the Robot's functions to Taiwan's President Tsai, Ing-wen, during the exhibition.

The newly developed Brain Navi "Nasal Swab Robot" helps to reduce staff-patient contact with highly infectious diseases at the point of testing by autonomously navigating and safely collecting patient samples. The Robot automatically recognizes the patient's facial structure and the nostril's location independently and gently takes the samples to avoid close contact with patients. The Brain Navi Nasal Swab Robot uses some fundamental functions of NaoTrac, the innovative "Neurosurgical navigation robot," developed by Brain Navi, which successfully performed 15 Human trial cases at the Hualien Tzu-Chi Medical Center.

The Brain Navi Nasal Swab Robot's application review of the Ministry of Health and Welfare's clinical trial in Taiwan was approved. Brain Navi is in the process of approval in the US FDA for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) and Taiwan TFDA.