

Thailand pushing genomics project as centre of medical hub

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Thailand, already famed for its world class hospitals and success combating coronavirus, aims to enhance its role as a global medical hub by establishing a Thailand Genomics Sequencing Center in the country's high-tech Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC),

Thailand is developing genomics medicine through cooperation between the Eastern Economic Corridor Office, the Health Systems Research Institute, the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation.

The Thailand Genomics Sequencing Center is a key part of the Thai government's 4.5 billion baht (about US\$150 million) five-year plan known as Genomics Thailand which was approved last year. Soon after, the committee that runs the EEC and the Health Systems Research Institute Thailand gave the go-ahead for a human whole genome sequencing center to be established within the EEC.

The EEC is a coastal strip southeast of Bangkok that is at the heart of Thailand 4.0 -- a strategy to transform Southeast Asia's second largest economy into a fully developed nation and the region's innovation hub.