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Taiwan's ITRI to launch iPMx molecular rapid test system for COVID-19 in Japan

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ITRI will be introducing the testing kit to the US, Europe, and South-East Asia markets



The iPMx Molecular Rapid Test System, developed by the Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) in Taiwan, with the support of Department of Industrial Technology (DoIT), Ministry of Economic Affairs, R.O.C. (MOEA), will be introduced to the Japanese market via the cooperation involving BizLink Group and Japan Biotechno Pharma (JBP).

iPMx has received a sales and manufacturing license from Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and is ready to launch in Japan. In the future, the system is expected to further expand its applications and become available for more hospitals and medical facilities overseas.

The iPMx Molecular Rapid Test System has four key features: (1) High Precision: Accuracy is over 90%; (2) High Sensitivity: Virus can be detected in the early stage of infection; (3) Lightweight: The canister weighs only 600 grams—57 times lighter than traditional testing devices—and is easy to carry around; (4) High Efficiency: Only one hour is needed to complete the test, which is 1/4 the time needed by existing PCR tests. In July 2020, it participated in the COVID-19 Proficiency Test of the Quality Control for Molecular Diagnostics (QCMD), obtaining 100% accurate results for all samples.

According to DoIT Director General Chyou-Huey Chiou, the entry of iPMx into the Japan market takes Taiwan's pandemic prevention technology to a new stage. The MOEA will continue to support ITRI in further development of a next-gen all-in-one COVID-19 analyzer and testing reagent kit, looking forward to more international cooperation opportunities that bring the biomedical industry to the next level. ITRI will also work with JBP to introduce the testing kit to the U.S., Europe, and South-East Asia markets.