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Agilent, Korea institute to launch neurometabolomics center

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Singapore: Agilent Technologies and Korea-based Daegu Gyeongbuk Institute of Science and Technology (DGIST) have collaborated to launch DGIST's new Neurometabolomics Excellence Research Center for early detection and diagnosis of brain diseases. DGIST is one of Korea's foremost universities and research institutions.

The center, located in Daegu, plans to conduct neurometabolomics research projects involving other fields of studies such as medicine, neurobiology, statistics, computer science and systems biology. There will be potential joint research with major educational and medical institutions elsewhere in South Korea, Singapore and Australia. The center will also train and develop scientists, researchers and chemists to fill the need for skilled talent in neuroscience research.

The center will serve as a hub of shared expertise, including the research capabilities of the Johns Hopkins University Center for Metabolism and Obesity Research in the US and major medical institutions and hospitals in Daegu.

Neurometabolomics is the set of biochemical reactions that rely on oxygen and glucose in order for the brain to perform its tasks. At the new center, scientists and researchers will analyze changes in the metabolic materials of brain cells and examine their impact on the body's physiological functions and behaviors.

"The Neurometabolomics Excellence Research Center will help sharpen South Korea's edge in brain science and allow DGIST to contribute significantly to world-leading research," said professor Eun-Kyoung Kim, Director, DGIST Research Center. "By working with Agilent, we can continue to spearhead developments and research in brain science."

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