

Agilent collaborates with National University of Singapore

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Singapore: Agilent Technologies has collaborated with the National University of Singapore (NUS)'s Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine in a move aimed to help researchers develop effective medicine to treat cardiovascular disease.

The Department of Medicine at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS will have access to the latest bioanalytical instruments from Agilent as part of its in-depth study of clinical bioanalytics-the body's response to drug exposure.

"We are happy to be working with Agilent," said assistant professor Chester Drum, department of medicine, NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine. "Agilent's broad range of technologies will, ultimately, aid in the development of new analytics for personalized patient care. Consideration of the patient as an individual, rather than a statistic, is where we will see the next innovations in cardiovascular medicine."

Dr Drum, who is also with the Cardiovascular Research Institute (CVRI) at the National University Heart Centre, Singapore, aims to provide real-time readouts for patients to understand the risk-benefit of commonly prescribed medications throughout the lifecycle of a drug. Presently, the research is on drugs for heart disease but could be extended to a host of related diseases, such as high cholesterol, diabetes, etc. This collaboration with NUS Medicine is exciting, as we can see that the potential outcomes could save lives or improve people's quality of life," said Mr Robin Philp, specialist for the academic market in the South East Asia Pacific and Korea region, Agilent. "We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with research leaders like NUS Medicine, who will be using our technology to conduct faster, more accurate research in their quest to answer science's tough questions."

"As a leading cardiovascular research organization in Singapore, we are delighted to partner with Agilent to enable the development of cutting-edge analytical biochemistry infrastructure, intellectual property and human capital in Singapore," said Professor Mark Richards, director of the CVRI. "This partnership is an excellent example of an intelligent extension of our institute's technical capacity while keeping in step with the needs of industry for mutually constructive and productive partnerships with academic biomedical research groups."

Under the terms of the memorandum of understanding, Agilent will provide access to its proof-of-concept laboratory in

Singapore.