Test for Covid-19 antibodies a world first for Singapore

Duke-NUS professor behind test to successfully trace infected person with recovered

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Nothing is as important to older folks in this age of social distancing as being able to know if they have ever been infected with the coronavirus. Duke-NUS Medical School scientists in Singapore have come up with a test that can do exactly that, and the results are ready before the end of May.

Instead of working on a test for the virus, Dr. Peng Wang and his team worked to develop a test for antibodies to the virus. The antibody test indicates if a person has been infected with the virus, but before the person (the patient) sits in the lab and the team gets developed antibodies. [Photo: HEI CHENG]

Don’t just think it’s a bad thing

As the coronavirus pandemic continues to spread, more and more people are being infected with the virus. However, many of these people are not showing any symptoms, which makes it difficult to track the spread of the virus. This is why developing a test for antibodies is so important. It allows scientists to determine who has been infected with the virus, even if they are not showing any symptoms.

The test developed by Dr. Peng Wang and his team is different from the tests used to detect the virus. It targets antibodies, which are proteins produced by the immune system in response to a virus. These antibodies can help the body fight off the virus and can also be used to track the spread of the virus.

The test developed by Dr. Peng Wang and his team uses blood samples from people who have recovered from the virus. The samples are then tested to see if they contain antibodies that are specific to the coronavirus. If the test comes back positive, it means that the person has been infected with the virus.

This test has several advantages over the tests used to detect the virus. First, it is less invasive and can be done using blood samples. Second, it can be done much faster than the tests used to detect the virus. Third, it can be done on people who are not showing any symptoms, which makes it easier to track the spread of the virus.

The test developed by Dr. Peng Wang and his team is currently being tested on a small group of people. If the test is successful, it could be used on a larger scale to track the spread of the virus. This could be especially important in areas where the virus is still spreading quickly.

However, there are some concerns about the test. One concern is that the test may not be able to detect all cases of coronavirus infection. Another concern is that the test may be less accurate in people who have been infected with the virus in the past.

Despite these concerns, the test developed by Dr. Peng Wang and his team is a major step forward in our ability to track the spread of the virus. It allows scientists to determine who has been infected with the virus, even if they are not showing any symptoms.