

MOBILE APP THAT PREDICTS DENGUE OUTBREAKS

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It wins Dr Dhesi Baha Raja prestigious international award, given by King's College London.



PETALING JAYA: A Malaysian has come up with a mobile platform to give warnings of possible outbreaks two to three months in advance.

Malaysian Integrated Medical Professional Association (Mimpa) president Dr Dhesi Baha Raja told Star Online that his app has an accuracy of 84-88% .

It is accurate within a 400m radius.

“The biggest challenge is to gather and extrapolate data and to create information out of it,” he said.

He added that bringing the technology to Malaysia was definitely a difficult task as there were more than 23 variables that his app used to determine the outbreak of dengue.

Dhesi has won the Pistoia Alliance Life Science Award for developing the mobile app. It is given by King's College London.

It also won the Singularity University's Global Impact Competition in Silicon Valley in 2015.

Dhesi calls the app AIME (Artificial Intelligence in Medical Epidemiology).

It employs technology and data to give people prior warning of when disease outbreaks might occur.

Dhesi led a team of six people to develop the app over the past two years.

He hopes to bring the app to Malaysia within the next three months.

Dhesi told the newspaper he would be working with mobile digital service provider Webe and hopes to partner with the Health Ministry.

The prediction model that the app uses is being utilised in two cities in Brazil, namely Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paolo.

Dhesi is pursuing his PhD at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas).