

## Singapore engineers create "human spare parts" to treat injury

**Source : AFP**

SINGAPORE, June 10 (AFP) - A group of professors in Singapore are among the few in the world who have developed the capability to create "human spare parts" using the principle of engineering.

Professor Nhan Phan-Thien, who is among the group of professors working together to create human tissue using weaving and scaffolding techniques, told AFP Monday that South Korea and the United States were working on similar projects.

"We engineer tissue for repair. For example, we take tissue from a person, grow it and put the new, healthy tissue back into the body," said Professor Nhan Phan-Tien, from the Department of Bio-engineering.

"But it's not that simple. First, we need to get rid of the unhealthy tissue, then we hold up the collapsed space using a supporting structure that we have built," he said.

The work is being carried out at the National University of Singapore's so-called Bio-engineering research corridor, and also involves other faculties, including medicine and dentistry.