In the future

**We will be able to have an operation to increase our intelligence.**

 Scientists have already developed brain implants that improve vision or allow disabled people to use their thoughts in order to control prosthetic limbs like arms, legs or hands, or operate a wheelchair. In 2012 CE, research on monkeys

5 showed that a brain **(1) implant** improved their decision-making abilities. How will humans benefit from this research? Scientists hope to develop a similar device to help people who have been affected by brain damage, which could be caused by

 **(2) dementia**, a stroke or other brain injuries.

**Doctors will be able to communicate with people in a coma.**

10 In 2010 CE, neuroscientists confirmed that it was possible to communicate with some patients in a coma, by using a special brain **(3)** scanner called an MRI. They suggested that, in the future, more meaningful dialogue with patients in a coma would be possible. Two years later, it has finally happened. The scanner, used on a man who has been in a coma for more than twelve years, proves that he has a conscious, thinking mind – a fact that had previously been disputed by many. Doctors plan to use similar brain-scanning techniques in the future to find out whether patients are in pain, or what they would like to be done in order to improve their quality of life.

**A new drug will help to treat certain types of cancer almost instantly.**

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A new cancer drug is being trialled in Plymouth, UK, which doctors hope will extend the lives of cancer patients and reduce their symptoms overnight. It is taken as a single (4) pill every morning, and so far, patients have shown none of the usual (5) side effects such as the sickness or the hair loss that are experienced when undergoing other forms(***conventional)*** of cancer treatment. The new treatment ***(Mechanism)*** works by blocking a protein which causes cancerous cells to grow. It will improve patients’ life expectancy and quality of life much more quickly than any other treatment. The patients were interviewed a year after starting the treatment and are fit and well, saying that they are

 definitely going to continue the trial. They have every reason

 to believe the new drug is going to work. Doctors at Plymouth Hospital hope that it will help patients from all over the world.



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