Stem cells injected into brain of Parkinson's patient for first time

Doctors from the Royal Melbourne Hospital successfully injected stem cells onto the brain of a 64-year old Parkinson's Disease patient. This operation, the first of its kind, marks a positive step towards developing better Parkinson's treatment.

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The use of stem cells in medical treatment is largely controversial because of ethical concerns, particularly with embryonic stem cells. The procedure, however, does not present an ethical problem. The stem cells used were created using neural cells in a lab of a biotech company in California.

"So the beauty of this technique is that...there are no ethical issues surrounding this...." says an optimistic Dr. [Garish] Nair.

Ethical concerns aside, there is also concern that its too soon for clinical trials of stem cell treatments. Earlier this year, <u>Dr. Patrik Brundin...</u> warned against the dangers of clinical trials being done too soon. "Acting prematurely has the potential not only to tarnish many years of scientific work, but can threaten to derail and damage this exciting field of regenerative medicine."

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: The War on Parkinson's: Stem Cells Successfully Injected into Patient's Brain