

## GMO heart transplant: In breakthrough, man with terminal disease receives heart from altered pig and is in recovery

A 57-year-old man with life-threatening heart disease has received a heart from a genetically modified pig, a groundbreaking procedure that offers hope to hundreds of thousands of patients with failing organs.

It is the first successful transplant of a pig's heart into a human being. The eight-hour operation took place in Baltimore on Friday, and the patient, David Bennett Sr. of Maryland, was doing well on [January 10], according to surgeons at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

"It creates the pulse, it creates the pressure, it is his heart," said Dr. Bartley Griffith, the director of the cardiac transplant program at the medical center, who performed the operation.

"It's working and it looks normal. We are thrilled, but we don't know what tomorrow will bring us. This has never been done before."

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Researchers hope procedures like this will usher in a new era in medicine in the future when replacement organs are no longer in short supply for the more than half a million Americans who are waiting for kidneys and other organs.

"This is a watershed event," said Dr. David Klassen, the chief medical officer of the United Network for Organ Sharing and a transplant physician.

**[Editor's note: [Watch the video here](#) and [read more about the procedure at the University of Maryland](#).]**

**[This is an excerpt. Read the original post here.](#)**