

IMPLANT COULD CUT OUT CHRONIC PAIN AND BRING BENEFITS FOR NERVOUS SYSTEM DISEASE

Adapted from The Daily Telegraph

You are going to read an article about a spinal implant. For gaps 1-6 choose the answer (A-J) which best fits each gap. Only **ONE** answer is correct and there are **TWO** phrases you **DO NOT NEED** to use. **DO NOT FORGET TO TRANSFER ALL YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET.**

Doctors have carried out a pioneering procedure to treat chronic back pain, fitting a permanent spinal cord implant, which automatically detects levels of discomfort, and could allow patients to avoid dependence on pain-killing drugs, ____ 1 ____.

Joe Grewal, ____ 2 _____. He now feels "thrilled to bits."

The 60-year-old said the constant ache in his back forced him to leave his jobs as a mechanic and banana grower. The pain troubled his sleep and made him irritable with his family and friends. At times, he said, it felt more than he could bear.

Until this week. Early on Tuesday morning he was fitted with a spinal implant and his pain level dropped from 8 out of 10 before the treatment to 2 or 3 immediately afterwards. "It's a significant decrease in pain" he told the press.

The specialist who oversaw the operation, Dr Charles Brooker, said it was a big advance as the device not only ____ 3 ____, but can also record signals emerging from the nervous system. "Nobody has ever been able to record these kinds of signals before, or do anything about them", he said.

The new machine ____ 4 ____ and that's a big advance because previously, conventional implants could give patients electric shocks or dropped out of range whenever the person changed posture; so many of them were not able to live their lives effectively in many cases.

Michael Cousins, ____ 5 ____ for other conditions in addition to chronic pain although he also points out that "further research will be needed". The implant has the capacity to reach a market 10 times the size of the current one.

The device, ____ 6 ____, will now undergo trials by a further 30 patients and once fully tested will be ready for general use. The Australian government has tipped 5 million into the development of this new device as they believe they have the responsibility to assist these researchers to try and get their work to the point where it could be commercialized."

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A	lowers discomfort
B	which can be extremely costly
C	which will initially cost about £15,000
D	sets whatever level the patient needs at all times
E	confuses the brain and they don't feel pain anymore
F	from Sydney University, declared that this will lead to great betterments
G	the first human guinea pig, stated that it has helped him to boost his well being
H	one of the patients who has undergone this innovative treatment, requires further analysis
