

It is a transition to a posthuman potential, moving beyond what we presently are. It is a future-oriented vision, one fueled by incredible scientific and technical advances and the possibilities they portend: greatly magnifying cognitive abilities, enhancing sensory input, finding ways to move our consciousness into a noncorruptible body, the extension of human life—to the point of immortality.

Dr. Thomas Horn

By Gina Kolata

Jan. 24, 2018

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Researchers in China reported on Wednesday that they have created two cloned monkeys, the first time that primates have been cloned with [the technique that produced Dolly the sheep](#) more than 20 years ago.

The long-tailed macaques, named Zhong Zhong and Hua Hua, [were made from fetal cells grown in a petri dish](#). The clones are identical twins and carry the DNA of the monkey fetus that originally provided the cells, according to a study published in the journal *Cell*. They were born at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Shanghai.

[Dolly the sheep](#) was produced from udder cells that had been frozen for six years. Until that feat, many researchers had thought that type of cloning was impossible, because it required taking adult cells and bringing them back to their original state, when sperm first fertilized egg.

The cell would then have to start to grow in a surrogate's womb and to differentiate into an entire animal, genetically identical to the one that



The two monkeys were cloned using the same technique as Dolly the sheep.

Jan. 24, 2018 • Image by Sun Qiang and Poo Muming/Chinese Academy of Sciences, via Associated Press

The new monkey clones stand out, though. "It's the first primate ever to be cloned," said Dr. Leonard Zon, director of the stem cell program at Boston Children's Hospital. "We are closer to humans than we've ever been before."

"That raises questions of where we would want to go," he added.

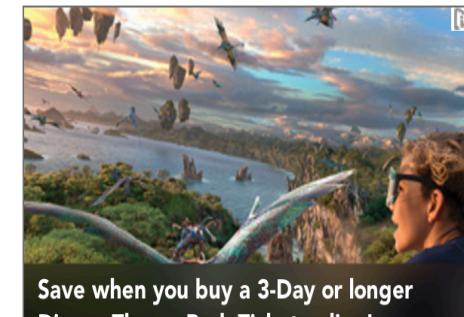
Chinese Scientists Genetically Modify Human Embryos

This marks the first time CRISPR has been used on viable human embryos.



By [Avery Thompson](#) Mar 10, 2017

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