

Top Medical Breakthroughs Just Around the Corner

Major health discoveries coming in the next decade were once the stuff of science fiction, say experts.

Stroke

► For the first time, stroke victims will regain movement of paralyzed limbs, thanks to a simple nasal spray.

Biologists at the University of California, Irvine, have come up with a groundbreaking treatment using a natural protein called TGF alpha, which plays a role in tissue formation.

Studies found it can restore 99 percent of movement in rats if applied to the brains after a debilitating stroke. Human trials are now in the offing.

"TGF alpha has been shown to repair damage long after a stroke," James Fallon, psychiatry and human behavior professor and senior co-author of the studies says. "We

believe this same therapy will be effective in Parkinson's and a number of other brain injuries and diseases. The potential for using this therapy in humans is very exciting."

UC Irvine's FALLON

