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Russian man set for world's first head transplant

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Valery Spiridonov explains why he wants to be the first person to undergo a head transplant, which will be carried out by Italian neurosurgeon Professor Sergio Canavero. Mr Spiridonov, from [Russia](#), suffers from Werdnig Hoffman disease, a muscle wasting condition that seriously diminishes his physical capabilities and left him dependent on a wheelchair.

Now he has announced his intention to become the world's first subject of a full head transplant, so that his brain can be attached to a [healthy body](#). Italian neuroscientist Dr Sergio Canavero claims he can complete the unprecedented procedure in less than a day.

The whole process, Dr Canavero says, is "90 per cent" guaranteed to succeed, though he admitted: "Of course there is a marginal risk. I cannot deny that."

Other doctors have expressed serious doubts, and, in particular, the likelihood that Mr Spiridonov's brain will still be functional by the time the surgery is complete.

Valery Spiridonov

Mr Spiridonov, however, is more optimistic.

"If I have a chance of full body replacement I will get rid of the limits and be more independent", he said.

Document 2



Adapted from: Russian man set for world's first head transplant
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/09/20/russian-man-set-for-worlds-first-head-transplant/>