

**Dr. Brilliant Research Update:**  
**Cells from albino mice begin making pigment!**  
**February 2007**



Dr. Brilliant and his team have succeeded in producing and testing several novel enzymes (scissors) which are able to cut the DNA at very specific places. Using a mouse model for albinism, he has produced a culture of explanted retinal cells into which he was able to introduce these enzymes. The cut DNA then repairs itself by recombining. In this process, the DNA strands often switch, leading to 2 mutations on one strand and no mutations on the other. This, in turn, restores normal gene function, creating a carrier rather than an affected cell. This, in turn, leads to the ability to produce pigment.

Since receiving funding from the Vision for Tomorrow last September, Dr. Brilliant and his team have succeeded in introducing these enzymes into the explanted retinal cells.

**Some of these cells have begun producing pigment!!** These results, while preliminary, are very exciting.