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Consider making a live animal from their skin cells. It sounds cool and scary at the same time. Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS) are stem cells that are derived from non-pluripotent cells, i.e. skin cells. Since 2006, the year when iPS cells were discovered, scientists have tried to generate a live animal from iPS. In the summer 2009, scientists made a live mouse from a group of iPS cells in a petri dish. Fanyi Zeng, one of the investigators from Shanghai University, told The Scientist magazine that he had created 27 live mice from 37 iPS cell lines. The researchers told The Scientist that the mice had some abnormalities that weren't described in the paper. In the second study, which was published in the journal of *Cell: Stem Cell*, Dr. Shaorong Gao of the National Institute of Biological Sciences created four live iPS mice from five iPS cell lines, one of which survived to adulthood; according to the paper, it was completely healthy. Yet the production of a live animal from iPS is not as effective as it should be. Only half of the iPS cell lines in Zeng's study yielded live mice. Also, one out of five iPS cell lines in Gao's study resulted in a live animal. In my opinion, this technique still needs to be improved. These studies showed that iPS cells have the potential of being as powerful and pluripotent as embryonic stem cells.