



Gene therapy provides more than a sporting chance

For immediate release

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Would you like to run a marathon in under 2 hours, lift twice your body weight and compete successfully against world class athletes?

Further advances in gene therapy mean that not only elite athletes but even your average person in the street could reengineer their body for success at the 2056 Manchester Olympics.

The existence of many different genes that can affect sporting performance has been well documented, but until now, there has not been an effective method for delivering these genes to specific sites and organs in the body.

Genes are made of a chemical called DNA and for a gene to have any effect in the body it needs to get into the nucleus of a cell. Using a combination of new technologies scientists have discovered a new method to package and deliver DNA to our muscles and other organs.

At the press conference, a scientist will answer questions on three areas of science:

- The process of gene therapy
- The effect of genes on sporting performance
- Delivering genes to specific organs in the human body