

# First Neuralink patient able to control mouse with thoughts: Elon Musk

Billionaire CEO Elon Musk said 'progress is good' after the first human patient received a Neuralink implant

By [Chris Pandolfo](#)

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Neuralink did not immediately respond to a request for comment from FOX Business.

In September, Neuralink announced it was holding open recruitment for the first-in-human clinical trial of its wireless brain-computer interface (BCI).

In the announcement, Neuralink said the Precise Robotically Implanted [Brain-Computer Interface](#) (PRIME) study would evaluate the safety of the company's implant (N1) and surgical robot (R1) while assessing whether the device can help paralyzed people control external devices with their thoughts.

Musk reported last month that the first patient to participate in Neuralink's clinical trial received the company's implant on Jan. 28.

"Initial results show promising neuron spike detection," Musk posted on X at the time.

The tech mogul also posted that the first version of Neuralink is called Telepathy, explaining that it enables people to control their phone or computer, and through them almost any device, with just their thoughts.

"Initial users will be those who have lost the use of their limbs," Musk said. "Imagine if Stephen Hawking could communicate faster than a speed typist or auctioneer. That is the goal."

Hawking, the late theoretical physicist, suffered from Lou Gehrig's disease, a rare condition that causes paralysis.

Musk hopes that his cybernetic surgical implants will one day be able to treat conditions like obesity, autism, depression and schizophrenia.

Neuralink received approval from the [Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA) to proceed with human trials for brain implants in May last year. Musk had sought approval for human trials since 2019, but in early 2022, Neuralink's application was rejected. The company has since worked through concerns expressed by the FDA over the safety of the implant.

Neuralink, which was valued at about \$5 billion last year, has faced repeated calls for scrutiny regarding its safety protocols. Reuters reported last month that the firm was fined for violating U.S. Department of Transportation rules regarding the movement of hazardous materials.

*FOX Business' Greg Wehner and Reuters contributed to this report.*

Retrieved June 11, 2024 from [Elon Musk says first Neuralink patient can control mouse with their mind | Fox Business](#)