

A thought-provoking study from scientists in the USA has suggested a "third state" that exists after life and death. This somewhat mind-blowing concept posits a phenomenon in which the cells in the organs of a deceased body adopt new functions after the body dies. Biologist Peter Nobel and bioinformatics researcher Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after their host organism dies. The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways." They added: "The third state suggests that organismal death may play a significant role in how life transforms over time."

The scientists suggested the existence of two kinds of "biobot" that are integral in the mechanics of the third state. Wiktionary.org defines a biobot as: "A robot that is partly or wholly biological in nature, as for example...plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as moving and reacting." The researchers termed one biobot as a "xenobot". This reorganizes cells into a new multi-cellular organism. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These are capable of self-assembling cells and moving around. The scientists said xenobots exist "beyond the traditional boundaries of life and death". They added the bots offer "prospects for new treatments" and personalized and preventive medicine.

What would you like to do in life? How would you like to be remembered in death?

	Life	Death
Hobbies		
Exercise		
Friends		
Job		
English		
Achievements		

Paragraph 1

1	thought-provoking	a.	Something that is really, really, really surprising or amazing.
2	mind-blowing	b.	An animal or plant on or in which a parasite or organism lives.
3	phenomenon	c.	Something that is decided or fixed before it happens.
4	host (noun)	d.	An unusual event or thing that you can see or experience.
5	inherent	e.	To change and develop slowly over time.
6	evolve	f.	Something that makes you think a lot about an idea or question.
7	predetermined	g.	A quality or feature that is a natural part of something.

Paragraph 2

8	integral	h.	To explain the meaning of a word or idea.
9	define	i.	Any living thing, like a plant, animal, or person.
10	organism	j.	Something that helps stop something bad from happening.
11	capable	k.	To be real or to be present in the world.
12	exist	l.	Having the ability to do something.
13	boundary	m.	An important part of something that is necessary.
14	preventive	n.	A line or limit that separates two areas.