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he ended up in France was tea was detained under the Mental Health Act? So a gentleman deemed to be a ginger to himself and others was able to get brands under your care? Yes, that happened. He was returned safely to the unit. And then escaped again. And then he escaped again, yes, I don't know if escaped is the right word. And he is now missing? Yes. In the last hour the chairman of southern health, Mike Petter, has resigned. A report from the regulator the CTC due to be published tomorrow, it is expected be damning. There's new hope for those with macular degeneration - a form of blindness that affects hundreds of thousands of elderly people in Britain. Next year could see the first trials of a pioneering new treatment.

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It follows a clinical study which showed gene therapy improved the vision of patients with a much rarer form of eye disease. Our Science Correspondent Pallab Ghosh reports. That's it. This is Joe Pepper, a 24-year-old teacher. Until a few months ago he was going blind. But his vision has been saved by a pioneering gene therapy. So, you obviously have done a lot of work, hopefully over the holidays. Joe also teaches history at St John's school in Surrey. Soon after his treatment he was asked to read from a sight chart. You read out the letters from the top individually, and I just kept on going and going and going beyond what I had ever done. My research nurse up there came out and was taking me back to the waiting room and she just looked at me and said it was fantastic and we both just had tears in our eyes. I went back and sat next to my dad, he just looked at me and we both literally sat there in each other's arms realising that actually I had...

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Sorry... I could see more than I could ever remember seeing, really. So how does the gene therapy work? Right at the back of the eye are cells which detect light and enable us to see. In Joe's case because of a faulty gene these cells had been gradually dying leaving only the ones in the middle. Doctors stop more cells from dying by injecting working copies of the defective gene into the back of his eye. The treatment also revitalises some of the dying cells, and so has actually improved his sight. What about in the evening and things when the light is low? Do you notice any difference? The surgeon leading the research is seeking to begin trials for more common forms of blindness, including age-related macular degeneration. What we have learnt here is how to apply gene therapy successfully in a very rare disease. But of course we would like to apply to more common forms of blindness and this could indeed be achievable in the next 5-10 years. Common forms of blindness involve more genes and so are

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harder to treat. But the results so far for Joe and people like him are promising. Pallab Ghosh, BBC News. Time for a look at the weather. Here's Sarah Keith-Lucas. Another wintry feeling day out there, some coastal scenes were you today, this one taken from the Gower Peninsula showing sunshine but equally big shower clouds around as well and some have been obsolete and snow particularly for the North. This is another scene from the inner Hebrides. More in the way of that mix of rain, sleet and snow as we mix through the course of this evening and overnight as well, particularly Scotland weather could be 58 and ten centimetres of fresh now over the higher ground. Rain moving its way across the UK, a cold and wet start Friday wherever you are. We could well see some travel disruption on Friday, if you have