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Cord transplant saves baby boy

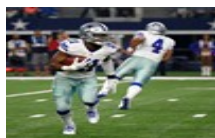
By Hu Min | October 3, 2016, Monday | PRINT EDITION

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A 7-MONTH-OLD boy received an umbilical cord blood transplant for a rare genetic deficiency at a Shanghai hospital yesterday.

Doctors said it was the first case in China to be treated this way.

They said the boy suffered from leukocyte adhesion deficiency, a rare disorder which leads to low immunity and recurrent infections.

He was transferred to the Children's Hospital of Fudan University from Wuhan in central China's Hubei Province after treatment at a hospital there had failed.

His sister is said to have died at 5 months old because of cellulitis and severe infections.

A cord blood transplant was the best solution for the boy's disorder, said Qian Xiaowen, director of the hospital's hematological department.

The cord blood stem cells that matched him were found at the Cord Blood Bank in Chongqing, and they were flown to Shanghai.

The hospital said the boy was also the youngest patient with the disorder in China to be successfully treated.

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