

Gene therapy used to combat immunodeficiency

UCLA researchers are using a gene therapy to restore the immune systems of children with so-called “Bubble Boy” disease. The Ainslie family has been dealing with a rare disease since their son was born. Mom Jessica Ainslie says, “He started getting really bad cough, vomiting, and throwing up.”

Colton, 5, has severe combined immunodeficiency or SCID, also known as “Bubble Boy Disease. He’s missing a gene needed for his immune system to develop. Kids with the condition are extremely vulnerable to viruses and bacteria and can die within one to two years if not treated it’s a fatal disease.

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