

U.S. Toddler With Rare Skin Condition Gets First Treatment in Russia

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Luna Fenner **Maxim Romanov / TASS**

Doctors in southern Russia have removed part of a birthmark on the head of an American baby who was born with a rare skin condition, the state-run TASS news agency reported Tuesday.

Seven-month-old Luna Fenner was diagnosed with giant congenital melanocytic nevus, with the shape of the mark covering her face [resembling](#) a Batman mask or a butterfly. She and her mother Carolina Fenner traveled to the city of Krasnodar last month after failing to find a doctor in the United States who could carry out non-invasive treatments.

“The first operation was successful,” Andrei Aleksutkin, head of the laser and photodynamic clinic in Krasnodar, [told](#) TASS. “We treated part of the nevus located on the child’s forehead.”

Aleksutkin said Luna was “eating, drinking and not taking any anti-fever drugs or anesthetics.”

Videos and photos posted on Luna’s Instagram page [showed](#) the toddler with gauze covering

her forehead.

The laser clinic plans to [perform](#) between six and eight surgeries on Luna over the next 18 months.

While people with giant congenital melanocytic nevus have a 5 to 10% risk of developing melanoma in their lifetime, Aleksutkin said there is currently no threat of Luna's condition degenerating into cancer.

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