

Gene editing baby doctor 'faked forms'

China

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The hospital linked to the alleged birth of the first genetically edited babies has denied approving the procedure and accused the scientist involved of forgery.

The Harmonicare Women and Children's Hospital in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen suspected that the signature approving the experiment was falsified and has asked police to investigate.

On Monday Professor He Jiankui claimed to have altered the DNA of twin girls to prevent them from contracting HIV.

"Our hospital has firmly opposed any gene editing experiments that violate human ethics," the hospital said. A statement was also issued by 100 Chinese scientists calling for better state legislation after the claims. "It is a great blow to the global reputation and development of biomedical research in China," they said on Weibo, a social media site.