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CJD son 'killed by tainted baby food'



Fears ... Thomas Goodwin, left, says infected baby food could have led to Grant's death

By CORDELIA O'NEILL
Published: 19 Dec 2009

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THE world's first victim of a variant CJD strain may have caught the disease from infected baby food, his dad has claimed.

Grant Goodwin, 30, is the first person of his gene type to die of vCJD.

Previously sufferers in the UK were thought to have shared a particular gene.

But father Thomas Goodwin said Grant - who died in January - had a different genetic make-up.

Scientists said Grant's death suggested strains of the disease may have an incubation period that spans decades. And Mr Goodwin claimed his son, from Hamilton, may have caught the disease from infected baby food fed to him as a child.

He said: "Grant was very happy-go-lucky and loved the good life.

"But once the illness set in, he became someone else. He was seeing things, he was paranoid.

"It was unbelievable what that illness actually does to people."

As the disease took hold, Grant moved back home from the Channel Islands - and Mr Goodwin took him straight to hospital.

He was diagnosed with vCJD - and a month later discovered he had a different gene type from other victims.

Professor Peter Rudge told the family Grant was the first with his gene type in the world who had died of vCJD.

Mr Goodwin added: "I just feel we need to get this out in the open because people need to see the early

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