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Smoothing singularities vs definite fillings

There is a conjecture by Kollár that asserts that a large family of rational surface singularities admit a unique smoothing. Topologically speaking, a smoothing of a rational surface singularity corresponds to finding a negative definite 4-manifold filling the link of the singularity. It is natural, therefore, to wonder if one can establish a topological analogue of Kollár's conjecture by studying the negative definite manifolds fillings of these link singularities. I will discuss some joint work with Paolo Aceto and Junghwan Park relating to this question. No knowledge of singularity theory will be assumed.