

Bedford company's special sheets could be solution for Doctor Who's Night Terror!

If Doctor Who fans suffer sleep disturbance after watching 'Night Terrors', the next episode of the popular sci-fi TV programme, they might find a solution from a Healthcare company based in the i-Lab in Bedford.



As the hugely popular time-travelling drama continues, the

Doctor, played by Matt Smith, receives a distress call from the scariest place in the Universe: a child's bedroom. Every night George (played by Jamie Oram) lies awake, terrorised by every fear you can possibly imagine, fears that live in his bedroom cupboard.

Fortunately for George, his desperate pleas result in a house call by the Doctor, but allaying his fears won't be easy; because George's monsters are real.

However for some children, Night Terrors isn't just a figment of the imagination of the creative writers of the series. It's a real condition that affects 15 percent of children between the ages of 2 and 6. Not to be confused with nightmares, children suffering a night terror attack remain fast asleep and unable to be woken despite their eyes being wide open, looks of terror on their faces, screaming and thrashing around wildly. Indeed, it is easy to see why



such a scary prospect for any parent to be faced with has ended up being used as inspiration in the popular BBC 1 series.

Local biofunctional bedding company Espere Healthcare have discovered that their DermaTherapy sheets, which are designed to keep sleepers cool at night, actually prevent Night Terrors.

Nine-year old Lewis Pitcairn suffered his first night terror attack aged three but the condition worsened and by the time he

was eight they were occurring almost every night. The disturbed nights not only drained Lewis of energy, but took it's toll on the whole family. It's a condition that can strike infrequently or, like Lewis, on an almost nightly basis.

His mum Jo had noticed that Lewis was usually very hot when he suffered attacks, and in desperation she tried these biofunctional sheets. Lewis had a good night's sleep and this continued until a cousin stayed over and he slept in his sister's bed without the sheets when he experienced another attack.

Chris Steeples, Managing Director of Espere Healthcare who supply the specialist sheets commented, "For any parent who has witnessed this condition in their children it's extremely worrying, not just because of the screaming from the child but from the feeling of helplessness from the parent. Jo was the first person to try our sheets for this condition, and because of her success we are looking to conduct further research into this condition".

ends

Date August 2011

Editors notes

Hi res images available on request

More about Espère Healthcare

Established in 2006, Espère Healthcare Ltd was set up to create and develop a totally new market in medical treatment - biofunctional textiles. A wide range of garments has been developed that are manufactured from new materials specifically designed to produce therapeutic rather than just protective effects, either on their own or in conjunction with currently used conventional medication.

DermaSilk Therapeutic Clothing is manufactured from specially knitted medical grade fibroin, permanently bonded with a patented antimicrobial shield which has been used in hospitals for over 30 years

DermaSilk Therapeutic Clothing has been approved as a Class 1 medical device for use by the medical profession on NHS prescription since 2007. DermaSilk garments are used in the treatment and management of eczema by consultant dermatologists, GPs and nurses. Further indications have been added to the DermaSilk prescription portfolio to cover other conditions such as gravitational eczema in the elderly and epidermolysis bullosa, a severe and debilitating skin condition. Further research for the therapeutic use of DermaSilk in other conditions has shown very promising results.

The company also supply DermaTherapy Bedding. Proven clinically useful for treating eczema, this bedding has additional applications in pressure sore management in the elderly and infirm, acne, night sweats and night terrors in children. The fabric has an antimicrobial finish bonded to it to help counter bacteria such as MRSA and Clostridium difficile.

DermaSilkIntimo is the newest product in the range which has greater stretchability and a new range of seamless designs. The latest clinical trials have shown the efficacy of these garments in relieving symptoms in women suffering from lichen sclerosus and candida infections.

Espère are also driving the development of these fabrics into new areas, and trials are in progress for the use of DermaSilk in lymphoedema, trench foot and end of life care. Other fabric technologies are also currently being investigated.

Espère Healthcare Ltd is the Distributor of DermaTherapy Bedding in the UK and Ireland.

DermaTherapy® is a registered trademark of Precision Fabrics Group Inc.

For more information about DermaSilk's range of therapeutic clothing, visit www.DermaSilk.co.uk.

For more information about DermaSilk Intimo's range of biofunctional clothing, visit www.DermaSilkintimo.co.uk.

For more information about DermaTherapy's line of Healthy Bedding products, visit www.dermatherapybedding.co.uk

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