Study into bed-wetting revolutionising treatment for kids

Bed-wetting is a significant problem for many children. Ten per cent of school-aged children suffer from bed-wetting and, unfortunately, only one third of these children and families seek medical help for this debilitating problem.

Up to one third of children who use devices currently on the market do not respond to this treatment. The study will be assessing the effectiveness of a new wireless bed-wetting alarm device, developed by staff at The Children’s Hospital at Westmead. Researchers at the Hospital hope that their new device will be successful for up to 95 per cent of children.

Head Researcher of the study, Dr Patrina Caldwell said “This study has the potential to significantly change the lives of school children affected by bed wetting. These children are often extremely embarrassed and therefore only one third seek medical attention. This is a problem that can be fixed, and we hope this study will further prove this.

“With the help of corporations such as Johnson & Johnson Pacific it is easier for us to carry out these projects which significantly change the lives of young children.”

In response to this potentially life changing study, Johnson & Johnson Pacific has generously donated 30,000 pads to which this alarm device will be fitted to assist in furthering the study.

A Johnson & Johnson Pacific Spokesperson said, “We are proud to support this important study. Bed-wetting is a debilitating problem, which can be embarrassing for school-age children and impact on their self-esteem and confidence.”

The Children’s Hospital at Westmead will pioneer the bedwetting alarm study during April in an effort to reduce the instances of bed wetting in children. The study is funded by the NHMRC and supported by the Continence Foundation of Australia in NSW Inc.

350 school-aged children who suffer from significant bed-wetting issues will be recruited to this study.

*The Children’s Hospital at Westmead* is the largest paediatric centre in NSW, providing the most advanced care and treatment options for children from NSW, Australia and across the Pacific Rim.

Established in 1880, *The Children’s Hospital at Westmead* is a stand-alone public Hospital and registered charity with 3,000 staff working in 150 departments. Over 60,000 sick children and their families are cared for each year in a family-focused, healing environment. Funded by the NSW Government, *The Children’s Hospital at Westmead* provides significant enhancements to services aided by the generosity of individual and corporate donors. For more information visit [www.chw.edu.au](http://www.chw.edu.au)