



Dreama[™] Testimonial - Ginny

Child's name: Ginny

Child's condition: Quadriplegia due to Cerebral Palsy, epilepsy, scoliosis, hiatus hernia and impaired vision.

Product: Jenx Dreama[™] 24hr Positioning System

Background: Ginny is a 15 year old with quadriplegia due to cerebral palsy. She also suffers from epilepsy, a hiatus hernia, scoliosis and impaired vision. Ginny lives with her brother and Grandparents who have cared for her throughout her life. She needs and likes a lot of attention. Her grandfather would sit every night with her for about 1½ hours to settle her down to sleep but Ginny very rarely slept for longer than a couple of hours. She has no problem going to sleep but can't seem to stay asleep. For 15 years her grandparents got up every hour, sometimes every 30 minutes, to turn her. Some nights it was so difficult to get her to sleep they would try singing to her and even moving all her bedding downstairs where there was more room to sleep on the floor and cuddle up together. She has even slept in her shower chair with her grandma in the bathroom taking care of her, just to get her to sleep.

Ginny takes an enormous amount of medication for her condition. She also underwent a very painful operation to remove the head of the femur of her right leg. She takes painkillers and used to have lots of antibiotics. At one point they even tried sleeping pills to help Ginny but even these didn't work. The sleeping problems never eased until Ginny started to use the Dreama[™].

Description of the product trialled: Ginny has been using the Dreama[™] 24hr positioning system for 10 weeks. On the first night, she only woke a couple of times according to her Grandma. Ginny has been sleeping very well ever since. She uses 2 small pads and one medium pad on her stomach and back and is turned, on average, twice throughout the night. At the most her grandma has had to turn her three times and in ten weeks Ginny has only had 2 or 3 really disturbed nights, partly due to ill health.

Sadly, her grandfather died during the trials which undoubtedly left Ginny and her grandmother anxious and grieving, but she has still had relatively few bad nights.

General and physical benefits:

From a physical viewpoint Ginny's Grandma admits that she hasn't yet seen any improvements, but in Ginny's case the question of physical improvement is perhaps far too early, due to the number of problems she has.

On the whole, however Ginny is sleeping much better and getting fuller night's sleep more often. The modular mattress actually helps to keep Ginny cooler, control her temperature and seems good for her circulation.

Emotional: Ginny seems to get a feeling of being held which offers her a sense of security at night. No-one has ever been able to say why she would not sleep and yet, all of a sudden she is starting to sleep much better and for longer periods without having to be turned as often.

From a practical point of view, not only does the modular mattress help to keep Ginny cool at night, but the individual covers are great too. Especially when Ginny suffers diarrhoea and vomiting, as the individual bed covers meant that where the bed was badly soiled they could be replaced quickly and with minimum fuss.

Conclusion

The ultimate benefit for Ginny and her family is the improvement to all their sleep. Ginny's grandparents haven't experienced a full night's sleep for 15 years unless Ginny was in respite care. Their own lack of sleep has most certainly taken its toll but they've managed over the years to deal with the problems. Now they are all managing to sleep well which is making a huge difference to their quality of life.