

## **Three nominations for family charity in prestigious national health awards**

Staff at a ground-breaking west country-based charity are crossing their fingers for repeat success later this year having just had **three nominations** made for **prestigious British Medical Association awards**.

One in 12 children and young people struggle with bedwetting, daytime wetting and soiling, and the charity ERIC exists to support them and their families – with practical ideas, information and resources to help manage or overcome the difficulties.

Now three separate resources, of the scores produced by ERIC, have been nominated as outstanding as part of the BMA Patient Information Awards. The GP organisation's annual award scheme aims to recognise excellent leaflets, booklets, websites and other electronic resources that help people better understand health issues.

The charity has been nominated for the 2009 awards for:

- A special short film which addresses head-on the issues facing families where children wet the bed at an age long after they might be expected to have stopped – the film has proved very popular since being made available on the ERIC website <http://www.eric.org.uk/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>
- *Sam's Story*: a sensitive short children's story book about an eight year-old boy who thinks he is an average eight year-old, apart from his 'secret' - he cannot help soiling himself <http://www.eric.org.uk/Portals/0/Sam%20Story%20web.pdf>
- The charity's website [www.eric.org.uk](http://www.eric.org.uk) which is not only packed with ideas and information for children and parents, but also provides an online shop selling a range of special products, like bedwetting alarms, daytime pants, bedding protection, swimwear, personal water bottles and reminder watches

ERIC Director Jenny Perez said: *"For many people this is a taboo subject, but it's far more common than most of us realise. The more they find out about it, the easier it is for young people to not only talk about it, but overcome it as well."*

*"So it's essential that information and advice given to young people and their parents is sensitive, informed and practical. Getting the balance right is a challenge, but the positive feedback ERIC continually receives from parents and young people suggests we are getting it right. ERIC has won a BMA award before and we are crossing our fingers for a repeat of that success this year."*