

# The little girl from *Bredasdorp*

On the 26 April 2012, an article appeared in the YOU magazine about a six year old girl, Azariah Slammet from Bredasdorp. Azariah, was born with a rare skin condition called lamellar ichthyosis, or more commonly referred to as 'fish skin' disease, that covers her whole body. Life for this little girl has become very difficult. The skin is constantly dry and causes continuous itching, not to mention the psychological effects, not just for Azariah's, but also for her family.

**A**zariah's mother, Anecke is currently unemployed and only receives a small grant from the government. Azariah's father does not contribute any maintenance towards the wellbeing and treatment of his daughter. Azariah attends the local school and is fortunately accepted by her peers and has supportive friends.

## Lamellar ichthyosis

Lamellar ichthyosis is a rare genetic disease diagnosed in approximately 1: 300 000 births and is not contagious. At birth the infant has a 'cling film' like skin which is eventually shed after about ten to fourteen days with the appearance underneath of fish scale- like skin. Before the shedding of the skin, there is always a possibility of bacterial infection due to debris and moisture that accumulates under the skin scales. This may also result in an unpleasant body odour. Currently, the only treatments available for this condition are medications such as oral and systemic retinoids and emollients containing urea and other alphas hydroxy acids to alleviate some of the symptoms such as tightness of the skin. This tightness can cause the hands to burst open as in Azariah's case. The systemic medication comes with side-effects and regular blood tests are needed to monitor the side-effects of the medication. The scales on her skin fall off but soon new scales appear. So far there is not really much to alleviate the debilitating symptoms of this condition. To date, there is no known cure for Lamellar ichthyosis, only medication

Before



to assist in the alleviation of various symptoms.

## Associated symptoms

This condition may not be lifethreatening but occurs with numerous problems, such as hyperkeratosis. This interferes with normal perspiration and can cause overheating or heat stroke, so staying cool is of prime importance. Perspiration is a natural process which takes place in order to cool the body and this is absent in Azariah's condition. Ectropion, or abnormal outward turning of the eyelids which subjects the cornea to constant exposure, may cause tearing and keratization of the cornea which may cause loss of vision. In this situation the eyes should constantly be lubricated. The toe and finger digits also become inflexible due to very taut skin, limited mobility and tearing of the skin could result, which of course gives rise to even more issues.

## Busby Liquid Gold Tissue Oil

After trying numerous treatments to alleviate the basic dryness and tautness of Azariah's skin, the Busby Natural & Essential Oil's Team noted Azariah's plight and donated a product called Busby Liquid Gold Pure Tissue Oil to Azariah for use on her skin. Azariah is bathed daily with the Busby Liquid Gold Tissue Oil and the tissue oil is massaged into her skin after her bath in the evening and in the morning as well. Anecke says that the itchiness has dramatically eased and so has the tightness of her skin. A more dramatic feature of the

After



effect the tissue oil has had on Azariah's skin is when some of the scales are shed, no new ones are appearing, and it appears that the re-appearance of new scales is reduced. This is more apparent on her face, and one can only assume that maybe more attention is given to applying the tissue oil to her face. Busby Liquid Gold Tissue Oil is made from the pure oils of avocado, grape seed and rose hip and has been clinically proven to nourish and improve the appearance of the skin. It is ideal for scars, wrinkles, stretch marks, ageing and dehydrated skin. Azariah is quite elated about the positive effects the Busby Liquid Gold Tissue Oil has had on her skin and these effects have also had a profound effect on her psychological status as well, making her a happier little girl who will be celebrating her seventh birthday on the 19 September 2012. If this is the effect that Busby Liquid Gold Tissue Oil has on Lamellar ichthyosis, then the name of 'Liquid Gold' is truly precious.

