Film: Lorenzo’s Oil – Part One

**Directions:** Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the film, Lorenzo’s Oil.

**Characters:**
- **Lorenzo Odone – child**
- **Michaela Odone – mother**
- **Augusto Odone – father**

1. Lorenzo begins to experience problems at school and at home. What symptoms of the disease first appeared?

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2. What medical tests were done to assess Lorenzo’s condition?

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3. When Lorenzo is diagnosed with Adrenoleukodystrophy, the doctor explains the prognosis for this disorder. What does he tell Mr. and Mrs. Odone?

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5. The inheritance pattern for this disease is referred to as _________________

6. Lorenzo inherited this disease from which parent? ___________________

7. The biochemical basis of this disease is related to the metabolism of what molecules?

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8. What is myelin?

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9. How is the buildup of molecules affecting the myelin sheath of Lorenzo’s neurons?

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10. What two trial studies did Lorenzo’s parents try to help their son fight the disease?

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11. What changes are apparent in the lives of the Odone’s that are related to Lorenzo’s illness?

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12. What decision did Lorenzo’s parents make about the way they would fight the disease to save their son?

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13. How was Lorenzo’s disease progressing?

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Film: Lorenzo’s Oil – Part Two

Directions: Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the film, Lorenzo’s Oil.

1. What is the attitude of the people in the foundation towards research and new treatments?

2. What is the response of the foundation leader to the ideas of the Odone’s.

3. What opposition do the Odone’s face from the medical community and care givers?

4. What is an orphan drug?

5. Augusto Odone makes a model to compare Lorenzo’s condition to a kitchen sink. What is the significance of the spigots and the drain?

6. Michaela found an interesting research article on Polish rats. What was the significance of this research?

7. During a medical conference what ideas are open to discussion on possible solutions to providing a treatment for Adrenoleukodystrophy?

8. What oil offers a possible solution to Lorenzo’s high level of VLCFA?

9. Where did Lorenzo’s father get this oil?

10. How did Lorenzo consume the oil?

11. How is Lorenzo’s response to the oil measured? This oil is only partially effective; explain why.

12. What does the paper clip model demonstrate to Augusto? What is his dream?

13. When Augusto explains the dream to the doctor, the paper clip model is shown to have this property of an enzyme reaction?
Film: Lorenzo’s Oil – Part Three

Directions: Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the film, Lorenzo’s Oil.

1. What is the name of the second oil?

2. What plant is this oil extracted from?

3. What is the medical basis of using this oil?

4. Who is Lorenzo’s rat?

5. Why can the therapy of erucic acid be tested on Michaela’s sister or Michaela?

6. Why are the doctors and family concerned about toxicity?

7. At this point, what is Lorenzo’s condition?

8. How is Lorenzo breathing?

9. After the administration of the oil, how does Lorenzo’s condition begin to change?

10. When the Odone’s present their findings how do the parents in the foundation respond?

11. How is the news received in the medical community?

12. Augusto gets a new idea for a “cure” for Adrenoleukodystrophy from shaking puppies. Explain.

13. How would a cure for the ALD boys offer hope to other neurological conditions?
Adenoleukodystrophy (ALD) Questions

Adenoleukodystrophy has only ever affected boys. That is because boys have always died before reaching puberty. With the number of ALD boys living beyond puberty increasing, could there ever be an ALD girl? Explain.

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Adenoleukodystrophy: