

EXAMPLE LETTER #2 OF MEDICAL NECESSITY

The following example **letter of medical necessity** and advice are only intended to assist you in writing your own letter to aid in securing funding for medical equipment. It is in no way implied that if you use this example you will be granted funding for medical equipment. Our only intention is to share information that we have gathered in the past and used by other clients.

The funding agencies that would be in charge of compensation for such medical items, such as your insurance company or a private philanthropic organization, almost always demand a letter of medical necessity from a therapist (physical, occupational, or otherwise) or from a physician to prove your claim that your child's medical equipment was necessary to his successful treatment. The claim or appeal will be likely be refused if you do not include a letter of medical necessity which includes a detailed explanation of the condition or disability that makes the equipment a necessity for your loved one.

It is possible that your particular physician may not fully be acquainted with the rules of your insurance company which will affect whether or not you are reimbursed for your child's medical equipment. (Each insurance company or state may have slightly different rules.) To be on the safe side, educate yourself on the rules so that you can be a better advocate for your family. You should become familiar with the bare minimum of information that needs to be included in a letter of medical necessity. Otherwise, the letter may contain insufficient information, which may lead to the funding agency denying your claim.

RE: Janie Doe

DOB: 6/22/08

To Whom It May Concern:

Janie is a three year old little girl with a diagnosis of quadriplegic cerebral palsy. She receives physical therapy services for 60 minutes a week at the PT Center for Kids in Hometown, USA. Janie presents with significantly decreased muscle tone with dynamic increases in extensor tone during excitement or attempts at movement. She has impaired strength and ROM, and limitations in her overall physical mobility. Currently in therapy we are working on trunk and head control for sitting balance, lower extremity weight bearing and strength for supported standing and assisted ambulation. Janie is able to roll from her back to her side and from her tummy to her back. She moves around on the floor in supine without the ability to control direction. She has limited control in these positions and can find herself unable to change positions if in close quarters. Janie has no safety awareness and can help transfer in and out of bed with assistance. Janie is too large for a typical crib-style bed and a traditional hospital bed does not adequately address her safety needs and could potential add to her risk for injury. Other options that were considered included putting a mattress on the floor but while she may not injure herself from the roll, she may roll about the floor and harm herself on other objects.

Due to her size/age, lack of safety awareness and limitations in motor skills, Janie is very unsafe sleeping in a typical bed with bed rails and has outgrown her current bed. It is recommended that Janie receive a SleepSafe 2 – Medium bed. This bed provides a precision-fit mattress that prevents borrowing and eliminates the risk of entrapment. The mattress fits securely within the bed enclosure, coming in contact with all 4 interior walls of the bed enclosure. The bed also provides safety rails on each side of the bed that extend to below the mattress, even with compression and are high enough above the mat-

ness to prevent Janie from falling out of the bed, reducing her risk from injury. The safety rails have clear non-breakable windows that allow freedom of visual interaction, both for Janie and to allow caregivers to monitor her safety. Because the rails are full length, extending from head board to foot board, with no break in-between and no gaps, they will prevent Janie from becoming 'caught' in the rails. The combination of the full length safety rails and the precision fit mattress, the SleepSafe 2 bed eliminates the 7-Zones of Entrapment identified by the FDA; this bed not only meets, but exceeds the FDA Guidelines for Hospital Beds.

Please consider this piece of medical equipment for Janie as safe sleeping options for her are limited to this type of bed. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Suess, M.D.

Lisa Smith, P. T.

Be sure to take note of when your child's letter was sent to the funding agency, and if three or four weeks pass without word from them, you might want to call the agency to inquire about the status of your claim. Always keep a record of when you call and with whom you speak to, and always try to remain calm and collected when dealing with the insurance company. If, however, you are unable to obtain a straightforward response as to when your claim will be processed, do not hesitate to enlist the help of your physician.