

EXAMPLE LETTER #5 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.

June 21, 2011

RE: Johnny Doe
DOB: 5/29/06

To Whom It May Concern:

Johnny is a 4 year old male with a primary diagnosis of cerebral palsy, he presents with the following: generally decreased tone in upper and lower extremities and poor head and trunk control. He is fully dependent on his caregivers for transfers and mobility. He is cognitively severely delayed. He is incontinent in bowel and bladder. He has frequent respiratory complications and is subject to bronchitis and pneumonia and he receives chest therapy. He occasionally aspirates, he has increased skin sensitivity, and he has seizures, but they are generally controlled with medication. He must have a safe sleeping environment to eliminate the danger of falls and entrapment with appropriate positioning to provide safety and support. And to facilitate safe sleeping, breathing and feeding.

His current bed is a toddler bed that is 2 years old. It no longer meets his bedding needs because he has outgrown it in size and weight and it poses additional safety concerns due to the lack of safety rails which results in him falling out. With his respiratory concerns as well as not being able to sit up, he needs to have the ability to be elevated. Several other options have been considered and ruled out as meeting the needs of Johnny's specific medical conditions. Please refer to the 'Patient History Form / Questionnaire' that is enclosed to learn more about the specifics of Johnny's current condition, family make-up, potential safety risks and other options that have been considered to protect him.

The goals for his sleeping and resting is to provide a safe sleeping environment where falls and entrapment no longer pose a threat for harm and to foster a comfortable rest, maintain posture, provide

comfort, and enhance function. Upon evaluation, I recommend a SleepSafe 2 – Medium bed with an Articulated (head and foot adjustment only) in twin size with an oak finish (no price difference in wood choice), NO padding and attached IV pole. Thank you for your consideration in our request to secure this piece of medical equipment to enhance the overall quality of life for Johnny Doe.

Sincerely,
Dr. Seuss
Dr. Seuss, M.D.

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.