



Medical Justification Language for Anterior Trunk Supports – Slim-Cut

AEL's sample Letters of Medical Necessity (LMNs) are solely intended as educational tools. These tools are for reference only and is not an official document for justification. The development of Letters of Medical Necessity should be ultimately left to healthcare professionals; and, the information provided within the LMNs should reflect the unique needs of the individual that the product is being purchased for.

****Methodology to apply the following justifications:**

When determining the level of equipment needed, begin with the basic level of equipment. Then, determine if the next level/style of equipment would be more appropriate for the client. If so, include the basic justification with aspects of the next level/style of equipment as necessary, as well as any further justifications as needed, which are listed below.

Basic Justifications

AEI AirLogic Anterior Trunk Support – Slim-Cut: Basic Justification

AEI's AirLogic Slim-Cut Anterior Trunk Support is medically necessary to assist the client in achieving improved trunk alignment as s/he presents with decreased trunk control and postural asymmetries* as a result of (insert diagnosis here if appropriate) and trunk weakness. This anterior support will maintain proper trunk neutrality, prevent the client's trunk from flexing forward while in a seated position, and aid in ensuring the client's trunk remains properly positioned against the wheelchair seat back. The slim-cut design, featuring a narrow midsection, offers the support required, with minimal contact to the client's anterior trunk, thus reducing the stimulus applied to the trunk, and avoiding breast tissue to ensure increased comfort and wheelchair tolerance within the seating system (if the patient has experienced a mastectomy, or lumpectomy, note this as part of the justification). Without use of this anterior support, the client would be unable to sit self-supported within the wheelchair due to trunk weakness and decreased core strength, thus negatively impacting the client's respiratory capability, digestive performance, ability to perform MRADL activities and eliminating the ability of the client to independently self-propel the wheelchair (include if applicable and patient is self-propelling).

AEI's AirLogic Anterior Trunk Support was specifically chosen for this client, as it has several benefits, which other types of anterior supports do not provide, that will aid in ensuring the client's safety, comfort and skin integrity. AirLogic is designed via a series of breathable fabrics and structural layers that maximize air flow under and through the trunk support, thus reducing the occurrence of moisture build up between the support and the client's skin surface, subsequently reducing the risk of skin breakdown and promoting improved skin integrity. **If the patient has a history of skin breakdown or skin integrity issues, note this here to further support the justification. (Select one of the additional options below to include depending on the style of support selected):

*In the event the **stretch option** was selected for this client, the above justification may include the following:*

The stretch feature offers controlled movement of the client's shoulder complex and minimal movement at the trunk, while providing broad pressure distribution and lateral control of the torso. Without use of this stretch feature, increased pressure or unequal pressure distribution may occur, resulting in pressure injuries or skin breakdown.



*In the event the **non-stretch option** was selected for this client, the above justification may include the following:*

The non-stretch feature will prevent, or at a minimum, significantly reduce any extraneous movement of the client's trunk (this is often desired with diagnoses such as Cerebral Palsy) as the allowance of even slight movement can result in extensor tone or pelvic migration out of the wheelchair seating system resulting in significant limitations of the client's MRADL performance and/or self-propulsion ability. Without use of this non-stretch design, the client may be at risk for increased allowance of mobility within his/her seating system, which in the case of this client's diagnosis, may result in decreased MRADL or self-propulsion performance.

*In the event the **zippered option** was selected for this client **and the client is independently applying and removing the support**, the above justification may include the following:*

The zippered feature will offer the client the ability to independently apply and remove the anterior support via the anterior zipper, thus eliminating the need to reach for the buckle/clasps. Due to the client's upper extremity presentation (insert if applicable: limited upper body range of motion, fine motor strength, etc.) s/he would be unable to apply or remove the anterior support without the use of the zippered feature. Without the use of this zippered feature, the client would be unable to safely and independently remove the feature and thus, unable to independently transfer into/out of his/her wheelchair.

*Note: In the event the **zippered option** was selected for this client **and the caregiver is applying and removing the support for the patient (since the patient is unable to do so)**, the above justification may include the following:*

The zippered feature will offer the client's caregiver ease in application and removal of the anterior support via the anterior zipper, thus facilitating transfers into/out of the wheelchair with greater ease as the patient will be transferring in and out of the wheelchair multiple times per day. Note: If the caregiver has fine motor coordination or strength deficits – perhaps an elderly wife caring for a husband for example, utilize this with your justification. If the client is a child in school, the ease of transfer feature and need to transfer multiple times per day is the primary justification.

In the event the client has a presentation/diagnosis of correctable kyphosis, the opening sentence of this above justification may include the following:

If the client presents with correctable kyphosis, note this above by including the statement, "namely, correctable kyphosis" after postural asymmetries in paragraph #1.