



Medical Justification Language for AEL Contoured Arm Supports

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.

Basic Justification

AEL Contoured Arm Supports

The AEL Contoured Arm Support is medically necessary to provide support and stability to the (right or left) upper extremity, as this extremity, which has been affected by (insert the cause of the weakness or flaccidity here, i.e., stroke, brain tumor, etc.) presents with significant weakness, diminished strength and motor control. This arm support is mounted to the arm of the wheelchair in order to provide support and protection to the affected extremity, thus preventing shoulder subluxation, which occurs when the weight of the arm pulls the humerus away from the glenoid fossa, resulting in shoulder joint laxity, severe pain and progressive debility. The contoured arm support will also offer mild elevation, thus reducing the risk of hand edema, resulting in range of motion limitations which can effect the client's ability to perform ADL tasks.

The AEL Contoured Arm Support was specifically chosen for this client as it includes a soft foam lining to aid in pressure reduction, skin protection and added comfort as well as additional contoured shaping to prevent the client's arm from sliding off the support.

In the event the client's forearm, **wrist or hand slides off of the support**, and/or **increased tone 'pulls' the arm off of the support**, the client may require a wrist strap to hold the distal forearm and wrist in place on the support. If a wrist strap is required, include the following statement with the justification noted above – **Padded Wrist Strap**:

In order to maintain the position of the distal forearm on AEL's Contoured Arm Support, the padded wrist strap is medically necessary. This strap will ensure the distal forearm remains safely within the contoured arm support, and prevent the arm from becoming injured by sliding off the support and/or becoming entrapped in the drive wheel. The padded feature is required to ensure skin protection.

In the event the client has a history of **skin breakdown** or **presents with bony prominences** to the distal arm (elbow to hand), which would suggest a risk of skin breakdown, the following statement may be included – **SynerGel Overlay Modification**:

The client presents with a history of skin breakdown and demonstrated skin fragility, and therefore will require a SynerGel Overlay Modification for use in conjunction with the AEL Contoured Arm Support in order to provide an increased level of protection against skin breakdown at the distal arm. Without the use of this pressure relieving option, the client would be at increased risk for the recurrence of skin breakdown, which can lead to additional medical complications.