



Medical Justification Language for AEL Y-Style Posture Support

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

AEL AirLogic Y-Style Posture Support

AEL's AirLogic Y-Style Posture Support is medically necessary to assist the client in achieving improved trunk alignment as s/he presents with decreased trunk control, postural asymmetries and most notably, shoulder protraction of the (right/left) shoulder. (Include the cause of the shoulder protraction here if appropriate). This Y-Style Posture Support will prevent the patient's trunk from flexing forward, thus positioning the client against the wheelchair seat back, retracting the protracted shoulder, resulting in improved respiratory status, functional independence and MRADL (mobility related activities of daily living) performance.

More specifically, the Y-Style's design, with orientation over the affected shoulder girdle promotes improved positioning of the client, including shoulder retraction, which will greatly improve the client's ability to breathe without having to lift the weight of his/her upper torso as is necessary with other support designs. This non-invasive design allows the opposing (unaffected) shoulder to be completely free of restrictions, ensuring full range of motion and dynamic reach to the unaffected side, aiding in MRADL performance from wheelchair level. Without use of the Y-Style Posture 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).

AEL's AirLogic Y-Style Posture Support was specifically chosen for this client, as AirLogic products are 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. This, coupled with the thin, contoured styling of the Y-Style, offers improved fit against the client's torso, temperature control and comfort, thus increasing the client's sitting tolerance within the chair.

(Select one of the additional options below to include depending on the client's presentation upon examination/assessment):



In the event the client is presenting with a **decreased ability to self-propel a manual wheelchair** due to his/her shoulder to drive wheel ratio, perhaps due to forward flexion of the trunk or trunk rotation with one side of the trunk presenting more anterior than the other, the above justification may include the following:

The Y-Style Posture Support was selected to successfully neutralize the client's trunk by retracting the (left/right) shoulder and side of the torso, which is rotating anteriorly. This support will stabilize the upper torso, and align the shoulders in proper trajectory to the drive wheels of the manual wheelchair, thus promoting improved self-propulsion range, resulting in increased efficacy of self-propulsion.

In the event the client is presenting with a **need to have adequate support to a shoulder with hemiparesis or weakness resulting from a stroke**, the above justification may include the following:

Due to the client's stroke, s/he presents with significant weakness and decreased range of motion to his/her (left/right) shoulder. The Y-Style Posture Support is medically necessary, as it is designed to specifically provide support and retract the affected shoulder, thus improving positioning and reducing the risk of soft tissue/ligament damage due to hemiparesis.

In the event the client presents with **abdominal ascites or abdominal distention due to any variety of abdominal diagnoses (liver cirrhosis or cancer for example)**, the above justification may include the following:

The Y-Style Posture Support is medically necessary as its upper torso design offers the abdomen to be completely free from the support surface. Due to the client's abdominal distention as a result of his/her (insert diagnosis here), the client is not able to tolerate a full-length anterior-based posture or trunk support, as a full length support will place pressure on the abdomen, resulting in increased discomfort and pain, as well as decreased wheelchair tolerance, with the risk of physiological ramifications.

In the event the client presents with **adipose (fatty) tissue to the abdomen, and a standard, anterior support will not suffice, as the abdomen protrudes far more anteriorly as compared to the chest**, thus effecting the fit of a standard anterior support, the above justification may include the following:

The Y-Style Posture Support is medically necessary as its upper torso-based design offers the abdomen to be completely free from the support surface. This client presents with notable adipose (fatty) tissue to the abdomen, and a standard support will not provide the ideal fit as the difference in position of the chest and torso in relation to the abdomen is too great. In order to ensure improved wheelchair tolerance, patient compliance and comfort, resulting in improved MRADL performance, a Y-Style Posture Support which is shorter in height, thus clearing the abdomen should be implemented.

In the event the client presents with a **PEG tube/feeding tube, ostomy system, peritoneal port (usually used for chemotherapy treatment), ileostomy or any other form of port or tube system in the anterior abdomen**, the above justification may include the following:

The Y-Style Posture Support, which is designed to provide the necessary support to the upper torso, and avoid the abdominal surface, is medically necessary as this client presents with (insert port, or tube system noted above here), and any posture support which would cover or apply pressure to the above named device is contraindicated. In order to protect the integrity of the implanted device, a Y-Style Posture Support is required.