

The Letter of Medical Necessity

For Medicaid waiver applicants, a Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN) may be required. This letter details how the recommended technology and/or services will “treat” limitations that are created by disabilities or mental health issues. The LMN usually accompanies a detailed summary of the technology and its function as well as a quote for the equipment and services.

Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

September 1, 2018

Dear Utilization Review Committee,

This Letter of Medical Necessity is written on behalf of Jane Doe. I have been Jane’s primary care physician for 6 years. Four months ago, Jane had her annual wellness exam. At that time, she and I discussed her desire to live independently in her own apartment.

In reviewing Jane’s most recent skills evaluation (see attached results), I noted that she has demonstrated the ability to complete her morning and evening personal care routines and meal preparation with verbal cues, as needed, from others. She is also compliant with medication administration but needs reminders about times of day the dosages are due.

The attached technology assessment and system recommendation indicate that Jane’s limitations could be addressed by:

- Wireless sensor system and monthly service to provider daily reminders for Jane to complete routines and alert natural supports if she needs assistance.
- Medication dispenser and monthly service to at dosage times and send an automated alert to natural supports if Jane does not access the dispenser.

I recommend that Jane be approved for the technology and services that are necessary for her independence and safety.

Sincerely,
Dr. Mary Smith, M.D.

Considerations

- Write the letter on official letterhead from the health care provider.
- Note the last office visit with the individual (some states require it be within the last 6-12 months)
- Explain the nature of the relationship with the individual (length of time, professional title).
- Reference specific evaluations and attach results.
- Avoid using technical terms or medical jargon.
- Describe how the technology and/or services will specifically address limitations and enhance independence.
- Sign letter with professional credentials.