



Client: John Doe  
D.O.B.: 10/26/1965  
Diagnosis: Spinal Cord Injury

## Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

To whom it may concern:

Re: Letter of Medical Necessity—ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System

John Doe is a 47-year-old male with a C4 spinal cord injury. His impairments include: impaired sensation, nonfunctional LE strength, impaired static trunk control, impaired dynamic trunk control, nonfunctional triceps strength, right/left/bilateral upper extremity weakness, impaired hand control, and/or right/left arm amputation. Due to his injury, he is unable to ambulate and is dependent on the use of his manual wheelchair for mobility and mobility-related ADLs, including transfers and activities that are performed while seated in his wheelchair.

According to the National Health Institute, one of the steps for safe wheelchair transfers is engaging the brakes. Many wheelchair-related injuries result from transfer mishaps, often due to the user failing to engage the wheel locks, the user being physically unable to engage the wheel locks, or failure of the standard wheel locks.

For the above listed reasons, I am writing to request funding for ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System. Please see below for medical necessity justification for each of John's impairments.

- **Impaired trunk control:** The ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System can be activated with one hand, and one lever engages both brakes simultaneously. Unlike standard wheel locks, the ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System can be located anywhere on the wheelchair frame to maximize accessibility. Both of these factors allow the brakes to be activated with minimal forward flexion of the trunk, allowing the user to maintain proper chair position. This system also adds additional stability to the chair that is important for users with impaired trunk control by reducing wheelchair movement during attempts at reaching and lifting.
- **Nonfunctional triceps strength:** The ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System is able to be engaged with only 1-2 pounds of pressure, compared to up to 20 pounds of pressure required to activate standard wheel locks. The decreased force required to activate the brakes will allow John to more successfully engage the breaks during wheelchair activities, improving safety with transfers and function during performance of ADLs.
- **Right/Left/Bilateral upper extremity weakness and impaired hand control:** The ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System is able to be engaged with only 1-2 pounds of pressure, compared to up to 20 pounds of pressure required to activate standard wheel locks, using only one lever to engage both brakes simultaneously. The decreased force required to activate the brakes will allow John to more successfully engage the breaks during wheelchair activities, improving safety with transfers and function during performance of ADLs. In addition, the multiple options available for lever placement can allow John to use a part of his arm other than his hand to engage the brakes.
- **Right/Left upper extremity amputation:** The ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System is able to be mounted on either side of John's chair, and is activated with a single hand, to accommodate his needs.

The ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System is the only system that offers unilateral activation of both wheel locks, and only requires light touch to activate. It is a superior and necessary alternative to standard push-pull or scissor style locks as it is the only option for a brake system that works independently of the tire by braking and locking at the hub of the wheel, taking tire type, air pressure, or condition out of the equation. They decrease the occurrence of repetitive strain on the shoulders, elbows, and wrists caused by activating traditional wheel locks. When mounted, they add little to no width to the footprint of the chair, and are out of the way so there is minimal risk of thumb entrapment. The wheels can be taken on and off with the locks engaged. An additional unique feature of The ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System is a five-stage incremental braking force—these incremental stages eliminate chair roll back during stationary activities, and assist the user when navigating uneven terrain and ramps by providing deceleration without undue wear and tear on the hands and minimal force output. They allow for more independence while descending ramps by taking up a partial load and slowing the chair down incrementally—this is especially useful in wet and steep conditions. John will benefit from each feature of The ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System due to his impaired trunk control/decreased upper extremity strength/impaired hand control/upper extremity amputation.

Based on the above factors, The ADI Variable Level Disc Brake System is the only appropriate option for John. Thank you in advance for your consideration of funding.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Jane Doe, PT/OT

I have read and agree with the justification of medical necessity for the above described durable medical equipment.

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Physician Name (print)

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Physician Signature

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Date

Note: All ADI Disc Brake Systems were specifically assigned and coded under the Medicare HCPCS code (E2228- Manual Wheelchair Accessory, Wheel Braking System and Lock, Complete, Each)

**\*\*\*Please note that this Sample LMN is for reference only and is not an official document for justification\*\*\***