

# Rifton Supine Standers

## A Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

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## Components of a letter of Medical Necessity

### **Describe who you are, what you want, and beneficiary's name:**

As John Doe's therapist, I am requesting funding authorization for a Rifton Supine Stander.

### **Give an explanation of beneficiary's condition, diagnosis, or nature of injury:**

John Doe is an 8 year 4 month old boy with a diagnosis of Escobar Syndrome with multiple pterygium and global developmental delays. This syndrome is characterized by contractures, tight skin, extra skin at the neck, webbing under the arms, and small shoulders. He has a history of osteopenia and has had 2 femoral fractures. He has had bilateral vertical talus repairs and an adenoidectomy. He has a gastrostomy tube with a Nissen procedure and had surgery to repair his soft palate. He is able to take tastes of pureed foods. He has a significant kyphosis, which is still flexible through at least 75% of full range, and bilateral elbow, shoulder, slight knee and hip flexion contractures. John Doe has great difficulty with frequent pain caused by gastrointestinal gas and has to be degassed in a supine position regularly otherwise he screams inconsolably. He hears well but has been diagnosed with cortical blindness. He has severe cognitive deficits.

### **Discuss the impact of the above mentioned diagnosis on the life of the beneficiary and caregiver.**

#### **Note the limitations without the requested equipment:**

John Doe is dependent for all transitions, positioning and activities of daily living such as feeding, bathing, dressing, etc. He can move his head independently in supine and prone positions. If put in a ring sitting position on the floor, John Doe can maintain the position for several minutes, but easily falls over. He can move his head, though he usually sits in a rounded trunk position with his head flexed forward. He requires maximum assistance once to assume and maintain a quadruped and kneeling position. If placed on his feet and supported at the trunk he will bear weight for a few seconds at a time. In this position, he will usually hold his head upright. He has been taking up to 8 steps in a Rifton Pacer Gait Trainer at school with moderate assistance. John Doe does not have any fine motor skills however he loves to play with switches and toys that make music and noise, which he activates with his hand.

#### **Describe the benefits the equipment will provide to the beneficiary and caregiver. Discuss adjustments for growth and psychological benefits:**

A Rifton Supine Stander is being requested because John Doe has outgrown his present system. John Doe needs to stand because weight-bearing increases his bone strength. He has had two femoral fractures. It will also help with digestion, bowel movements, and place him in position where his hip flexors and knee flexors get stretched. The Supine Stander can be adjusted easily to either a supine or upright position, which is good for him. Some days he does better supine and others in the upright position. The tray allows him to play with toys as he stands, and encourages upper extremity weight-bearing, helping him elevate his head and straighten his trunk. The stander quickly goes from upright to supine if John Doe is in distress and needs to be degassed.

## Itemization of the Rifton Supine Stander:

Item	Description of Medical Necessity
<p><b>Supine Stander</b></p> 	<p>Provides incremental weight-bearing, increasing bone strength. Upright posture, prolonged stretch of hip and knee flexors, positioning of spine to help prevent scoliosis, improvement of respiratory and digestive system functioning. For a child 30"– 50" tall.</p>
<p><b>Tray</b></p> 	<p>Allows for positioning of tools and communication systems that enhance learning and provide motivation to remain upright.</p>
<p><b>Hand Anchor</b></p> 	<p>Hand Anchor helps position hands firmly anywhere on the tray.</p>
<p><b>Additional laterals</b></p> 	<p>Help align the trunk and are adjustable widthwise and up and down.</p>
<p><b>Adjustable abduction wedge</b></p> 	<p>Helps to control spastic muscles that cause legs to scissor. Necessary for good body alignment and tone control. Provides variable abduction as a client develops strength. Width adjusts from 3½"–11½".</p>
<p><b>Round abductor</b></p> 	<p>Helps to control spastic muscles that cause legs to scissor. Necessary for good body alignment and tone control. Provides 4" of knee separation.</p>
<p><b>Collar</b></p> 	<p>Adds 2" more abduction to E602 round abductor.</p>
<p><b>Sandals and wedges</b></p> 	<p>Sandals position feet correctly and can be adjusted to the individual by moving them in and out, backward and forward. Wedges raise heels or toes. For different leg lengths combine two wedges under one sandal.</p>

If you have any questions regarding this request please contact me. Thank you for your concern for John Doe's well being.

**Don't forget to include pictures of the Supine Standers.**



**E420 Small Supine Stander**



**E430 Large Supine Stander**



**The large Supine Stander (E430)** provides 9" of vertical adjustment in the horizontal position, before gradually progressing to an upright position.

