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Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

RE: John Smith
DOB: 07/15/98
Insurance ID #001002003004

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request authorization for an electronic communication system for John Smith. John was seen at Franciscan Hospital, Anytown, for an augmentative communication evaluation on February 2, 2005. Three different systems were considered during the evaluation; however the Mercury was found to be the most functional and appropriate system for him.

The Mercury is the system of choice because it will allow him to use picture communication symbols and voice output; it is portable and can be mounted to his wheelchair; and it is compatible with the technology at his place of employment. John requires a Mercury because his cerebral palsy makes it impossible for him to speak intelligibly.

The Mercury has many advantages over the other two systems that were tried. The voice output allows for more natural interaction with John's family, friends, co-workers and medical professionals.

The wheelchair mount will allow John to take the Mercury with him wherever he goes, including work, home and the hospital where he receives speech therapy and medical care. The high quality speech output will enable John to discuss his wants, needs, medical status and thoughts in one-to one and group situations. It is also universally accessible, allowing for a wide variety of input methods. The Mercury and communication software will provide John the vocabulary needed to meet his communication needs.

Lastly, given the nature of his medical condition, the need for on-going communication with medical staff, and the difficulty in finding transportation, the Mercury enables John to stay in touch with his health care workers via email. This feature will improve the effectiveness of services and ensure that changes in his medical status are addressed in a timely manner.

Please refer to the attached written evaluation for further details. William Black, John's Speech-Language Pathologist, prepared the evaluation.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jane Jones, MD
Primary Care Physician
Children's Hospital
123 Main St.
Anytown, USA 12345