

PATIENT NAME GOES HERE DOB: 00/00/1900

O&P LETTER HEAD GOES HERE

CP NAME, CREDENTIALS
O&P/FACILITY NAME GOES HERE
ADDRESS
PHONE & FAX

DATE GOES HERE	
Letter of Medical Necessity	
Patient:	John Doe 7777 Sunshine Blvd Somewhere, CA 90805 Home: 123-456-7890 Cell: 000-000-0000 DOB: 00/00/1845
Insurer:	Insurance 12345 S. Village Oaks Dr. SOMEWHERE CA 00000 Case Manager: NAME GOES HERE Direct: 000-000-0000 FAX: 000-000-0000 Email: EMAIL ADDRESS GOES HERE Claim#: 0000-00-0000 DOI: 00/00/1900
Prosthetist:	NAME GOES HERE, CPO FACILITY NAME HERE 1234 HOLLYWOOD Blvd. SOMEWHERE, CA 12345 Office: XXX-XXX-XXXX Fax: XXX-XXX-XXXX Email: EMAIL ADDRESS GOES HERE Website: WEB ADDRESS HERE
Physician:	PHYSICIAN NAME, MD PRACTICE NAME ADDRESS Long Beach CA 90807 NPI#: XXXXXXXXX Phone: 000-000-0000 Fax: 000-000-0000

To whom it may concern:

This letter documents medical necessity of a C-Brace microprocessor stance and swing phase controlled orthosis (SSCO), for the patient, _____. Medical history and treatment pathways are as follows:

A. BACKGROUND

_____ is a _____ year old (male/female). Patient is married with _____ children ages _____. Patient was diagnosed with _____ on _____ due to _____.

- Provide a short history of the illness/injury causing the symptoms
- Include therapeutic interventions and results
- Include other medical conditions that have occurred as a result of this diagnosis (e.g. shoulder injury from using Lofstrand crutches)

B. ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING BEFORE AND AFTER AMPUTATION

Work:

Patient, currently works as a _____ and hopes to return to the

- Work force (in the same position)
- Or transition to a different position (i.e. office environment)
- Describe what it will take to get to work (e.g. getting ready in morning, transportation, getting into building, etc.)
- Describe work environment and activities patient will perform at work
- Describe equipment that will be operated

Activities of Daily Living (ADL):

Patient would like to safely perform activities of daily living; “the things we normally do in daily living including any daily activity we perform for self-care (i.e. feeding ourselves, bathing, dressing, grooming), work, homemaking, and leisure.” Patient would like the orthosis to allow (him/her) to perform (his/her) normal activities of daily living (.)

Family:

Patient is also anxious to participate in functions with his/her family. As Patient has _____ children he/she wants to be able to keep up with their activities. Reported activities are _____.

Exercise and Leisure Activities:

Patient would also like to return to a variety of exercise and leisure activities. Reported interests are _____.

Home Maintenance, Yardwork, Hobbies:

Describe activities that patient wants to get back to and any tools or equipment he/she desires to operate keeping in mind the functions C-Brace allows.

Trial: _____ was seen by _____ CP/CPO today _____. Patient has been realized to be a likely candidate for a C-Brace. [describe C-Brace trial]

Current Device: _____ presents as _____ and currently wears [describe current orthoses] that includes _____. The C-Brace .

Falls and Stumbles: [provide a history of patient’s falls - number of falls / month & year, and respective injuries and costs incurred as a result] When the C-Brace microprocessor senses that the _____ is in an insecure position—such as during a trip or stumble—it will increase resistance to provide the support needed to recover safely.

Difficulty Walking Backward: [describe current and potential activities that require stepping/walking backwards, such as when opening a door and the difficulties encountered] The C-Brace microprocessor technology will provide safety and stability when _____ is forced to step backwards.

Difficulty Standing Securely on Level Ground or on Slopes: [describe current and potential activities that require walking on a level surface or on an incline where your patient might have to stop and rest or stand in a locked position] The intuitive stance function on the C-Brace will allow _____ to safely stand in a locked position (5°-15° knee flexion). This will allow _____ to unload and rest while securely standing on level ground and slopes.

Difficulty Transitioning to a Sitting/Standing Position or Relaxing in a Confined Space: [describe the lack of control observed when your patient transitions to a sitting/standing position and/or has difficulty

sitting in confined spaces] The C-Brace will automatically detect when _____ begins to sit down, adjusting the hydraulic resistance so the knee joint provides progressive support during sitting. This will allow _____ to complete the sit down motion in a controlled manner and at a controlled rate. The C-Brace will also automatically detect when _____ is in a sitting position and allow _____ to more easily position the leg in preparation for standing. This same feature allows the brace to be in a relaxed position in confined spaces.

Difficulty Changing Walking Speed: [describe current and potential activities that require changes in walking speed (e.g. walking in crowds or crossing a busy street)] The C-Brace microprocessor receives information from the electronic sensors 100 times per second. Each time, gait is analyzed and the hydraulic controls are adjusted to prepare for the user's next movement (in real-time). This feature will allow _____ to walk with less concentration and easily change walking speeds.

Hip Hike, Circumduction, Vaulting: [describe current and potential situations where patient walks with a compensatory gait pattern] Real-time gait analysis will allow _____ to walk with less compensation of the sound side (e.g. hip hike, circumduction, or vault), and as a result use less energy to walk.

Long Distance Walking Requirement: [describe realistic longer distance ambulation activities that patient desires to do on a typical day]

Difficulty Navigating Ramps and Stairs: [describe current and potential activities that include hills, ramps or stairs] The C-Brace provides hydraulic resistance against knee flexion (bending) allowing controlled partial knee flexion in early stance phase during weight bearing, thus providing shock absorption and reduced impact. This will allow _____ to securely walk down hills and ramps and to descend stairs step over step.

Slow Walking Speed: [if applicable, describe current and potential activities that your patient has difficulty performing due to a slow walking speed, such as transitioning from level ground walking to descending a ramp/stairs, or transitioning to an activity requiring increased knee flexion resistance for level ground walking] For patients with slow cadences, such as _____, the C-Brace flexion resistance setting needs to be different when walking on level ground from that needed for descending ramps and stairs or for stand to sit support. Stance Flexion Resistance Plus is a setting that allows the knee joint to provide increased knee flexion resistance during level ground walking, which will help _____ maintain the center of gravity height.

Knee is not in Correct Position at Terminal Swing: [describe current and potential situations where the swing phase knee flexes too much (not damped) and the limb lacks the timing for the knee to be in the proper position at terminal swing] C-Brace adjusts hydraulic resistance of swing knee flexion during swing phase to insure that the swing phase limb is exhibiting proper swing phase mechanics. This will prevent _____ from being in a state of perpetual stumble at initial contact.

Knee Hyperextension Thrust Causing Low Back Pain: [document the patient's hyperextension thrust during stance extension and the resulting low back pain and any medical treatment, associated expenses, etc.] The C-Brace provides microprocessor-controlled real-time hydraulic resistance during stance extension resulting in a more natural gait. This resistance will reduce _____'s knee hyperextension thrust by controlling the knee extension moment at terminal stance. This feature will also prevent _____ from over-rotating the pelvis posteriorly and overloading the lower back during ambulation on level ground.

Difficulty with Deceleration During Fast Walking Speed: [describe current and potential activities that require faster than normal walking speed; also describe any difficulties with deceleration] Follow with: "The C-Brace provides microprocessor-controlled real-time extension hydraulic resistance during terminal swing.. This resistance is essential to provide shock absorption against impact with faster walking speeds. Additionally, adjustment is provided

Problem with Less-Costly Options

Locked knee-ankle-foot-orthoses (LKAFO) are often prescribed for patients with paralysis or paresis. The problem is that they only work well on level terrain and the user has to swing the braced limb in a circular motion ("circumduction") and hike the hip in order to clear the foot. Walking in this fashion consumes a great amount of energy and wears on the hip joint. LKAFOs are mostly used for ambulating in the home and do not provide the potential for safe, physiological gait in the community, at work, during exercise, or for other daily activities. That is because LAKFOs cannot be used in a reciprocal manner on uneven terrain, ramps or stairs due to the knee being locked. It is also difficult to transfer from standing to a sitting position or back to standing. Bilateral patients using LKAFO generally require crutches for balance, which are not suitable for long-term use and are known to cause injuries (e.g. carpal tunnel syndrome, compressive neuropathy) causing severe pain to hands, arms and shoulders.

Stance Control Orthosis (SCO): Similar to LKAFOs, stance control orthoses do not provide safe walking on ramps or stairs and bilateral patients generally require crutches for balance, which are not suitable for long-term use and are known to cause injuries (e.g. carpal tunnel syndrome, compressive neuropathy) causing severe pain to hands, arms and shoulders.

C-Brace Microprocessor Stance and Swing Phase Controlled Hydraulic KAFO

The C-Brace's technology is based on the C-Leg microprocessor controlled prosthetic knee. It is the only orthosis currently on the market that has microprocessor-controlled stance and swing phase. The C-Brace is a passive orthosis and not powered by actuators (motors). The C-Brace monitors the gait cycle in real time and automatically adjusts resistance to prepare for the next movement to provide the potential for a safe and physiologic gait. This allows patients to walk with more ease and less concentration. Additionally, users experience less sound side compensation and stress as well as potential complications. Unlike locked KAFOs and SCOs, the C-Brace allows for safe navigation of uneven terrain, descending stairs and ramps, and the potential to recover from a stumble.

Summary: [summarize how C-Brace will be beneficial] It is anticipated that use of C-Brace(s) may prevent future costly injuries, debilitation, hospitalization and procedures by normalizing _____'s gait and may prevent further falls. In summary, I do believe _____ is appropriate for C-Brace Microprocessor Stance and Swing Phase Controlled Hydraulic KAFO and highly recommend it.

Signature

Printed Name

Date