



DRAFT Comment Letter for Seat Elevation/Standing Systems – Clinician

(Please use this as an example – do not copy and paste!)

I am pleased to be able to provide my thoughts regarding the announcement that CMS is reviewing a request to cover power seat elevation and standing systems for power wheelchairs. I am a (*insert type of licensure*) in a (*insert clinical setting*) who evaluates clients who require mobility and seating technologies. I have seen firsthand the change in my patient’s quality of life when they have access to power seat elevation and power standing.

When patients are able to obtain power seat elevation, it reduces their dependence on family and caregivers. By allowing them to perform routine tasks for themselves, it dramatically increases their emotional and psychological well-being, and allows them to transfer and perform tasks for themselves and on their time schedule.

When patients are able to obtain power standing, it often prevents other health issues associated with long-term sitting. In addition, these products offer similar benefits mentioned above related to seat elevation.

As a clinician who evaluates people with disabilities, my goal is always to understand their physical limitations associated with their disability, daily activities, and their capacities. I am frustrated when I know technology exists that would promote better health outcomes, promote greater control over their environment, and offer increased independence, but access to it is denied because of Medicare’s coverage policy.

I strongly encourage CMS to change its antiquated policies related to these important products.

EXAMPLE

Visit www.rise4access.org for more information on how you can help advance coverage for seat elevation and standing systems.