

The following are sample medical justification wording for specific Dynamic Seating components which may be used in documentation, such as a Letter of Medical Necessity. These examples do not replace competent evaluation. If you require further assistance with documentation, please contact us for help.

## Dynamic Rocker Back

### 1. For a client who requires a Dynamic Rocker Back to prevent equipment breakage:

#### For the client with a history of equipment breakage:

The Dynamic Rocker Back moves posteriorly in response to client force and assists the client back to an upright starting position. The Dynamic Rocker Back is recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client which have led to equipment breakage in the past and to prevent future breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

or

#### For the client who does not have a history of equipment breakage, but has the potential to break equipment:

The Dynamic Rocker Back moves posteriorly in response to client force and assists the client back to an upright starting position. The Dynamic Rocker Back is recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client to prevent equipment breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

### 2. For a client who requires a Dynamic Rocker Back to absorb extensor forces:

The Dynamic Rocker Back moves posteriorly in response to client force and assists the client back to an upright starting position. The Dynamic Rocker Back is recommended to absorb forces resulting from active client extensor tone. By absorbing and diffusing these forces, extensor tone can be decreased. Reducing extensor tone can increase function, sitting tolerance and conserve energy. Active range of motion at the hips is also provided, reducing risk and progression of range of motion losses.

### 3. For a client who requires a Dynamic Rocker Back to provide movement:

The Dynamic Rocker Back moves posteriorly in response to client force and assists the client back to an upright starting position. The Dynamic Rocker Back is recommended to provide movement for the client to provide vestibular input, increase alertness, decrease agitation, increase sitting tolerance and increase function.

### 4. For a client who requires a Dynamic Rocker Back to increase trunk strength and postural control:

The Dynamic Rocker Back moves posteriorly in response to client force and assists the client back to an upright starting position. The Dynamic Rocker Back is recommended to provide movement for the client against resistance to increase trunk strength and improve postural control.

## Dynamic Footrests

### Dynamic Footrests – telescoping feature only

#### 1. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to prevent equipment breakage:

##### For the client with a history of equipment breakage:

Dynamic Footrests lengthen in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client which have led to equipment breakage in the past and to prevent future breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

Or

##### For the client who does not have a history of equipment breakage, but has the potential to break equipment:

Dynamic Footrests lengthen in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client to prevent equipment breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

#### 2. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to absorb extensor tone:

Dynamic Footrests lengthen in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces resulting from active client extensor tone. By absorbing and diffusing these forces, extensor tone can be decreased. Reducing extensor tone can increase function, sitting tolerance and conserve energy. By providing dynamic lengthening only, rather than knee extension, pelvic position is more readily maintained.

### Dynamic Footrests – telescoping feature and knee extension option

#### 1. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to prevent equipment breakage:

##### For the client with a history of equipment breakage:

Dynamic Footrests lengthen and extend at the knee in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client which have led to equipment breakage in the past and to prevent future breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

Or

##### For the client who does not have a history of equipment breakage, but has the potential to break equipment:

Dynamic Footrests lengthen and extend at the knee in response to client forces and then return

to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client to prevent equipment breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

### **2. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to absorb extensor tone:**

Dynamic Footrests lengthen and extend at the knee in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces resulting from active client extensor tone. By absorbing and diffusing these forces, extensor tone can be decreased. Reducing extensor tone can increase function, sitting tolerance and conserve energy. Active range of motion at the knee is also provided, reducing risk and progression of range of motion losses.

### **3. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to provide movement:**

Dynamic Footrests lengthen and extend at the knee in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to provide movement for the client to provide vestibular input, increase alertness, decrease agitation, increase sitting tolerance and increase function.

### **4. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to increase lower extremity strength:**

Dynamic Footrests lengthen and extend at the knee in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to provide movement for the client against resistance to increase lower extremity strength.

## **Dynamic Footrests – telescoping feature and knee extension option, plantar and dorsi flexion Option**

### **1. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to prevent equipment breakage:**

#### **For the client with a history of equipment breakage:**

Dynamic Footrests lengthen, as well as extend at the knee and ankle in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client which have led to equipment breakage in the past and to prevent future breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

Or

#### **For the client who does not have a history of equipment breakage, but has the potential to break equipment:**

Dynamic Footrests lengthen, as well as extend at the knee and ankle in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client to prevent equipment breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

### **2. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to absorb extensor tone:**

Dynamic Footrests lengthen, as well as extend at the knee and ankle in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to absorb forces resulting from active client extensor tone. By absorbing and diffusing these forces, extensor tone can be decreased. Reducing extensor tone can increase function, sitting tolerance and conserve energy. Active range of motion at the knee and ankle is also provided, reducing risk and progression of range of motion losses.

### **3. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to provide movement:**

Dynamic Footrests lengthen, as well as extend at the knee and ankle in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to provide movement for the client to provide vestibular input, increase alertness, decrease agitation, increase sitting tolerance and increase function.

### **4. For a client who requires Dynamic Footrests to increase lower extremity strength:**

Dynamic Footrests lengthen and extend at the knee and ankle in response to client forces and then return to a starting position. Dynamic Footrests are recommended to provide movement for the client against resistance to increase lower extremity strength.

## **Dynamic Head Support Hardware**

### **Single Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware**

#### **1. For a client who requires Dynamic Head Support Hardware to prevent client injury and equipment breakage:**

##### **For the client with a history of equipment breakage:**

The Single Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware moves posteriorly in response to client forces and then returns to a starting position. The Dynamic Head Support Hardware is recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client which have led to equipment breakage in the past and to prevent future breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

Absorbing these forces can also protect the brain and cervical area from injury from sudden, forceful and/or repeated impacts as well as sustained forces. Finally, by absorbing forces and providing limited movement, the client may be less likely to come off of the head pad which can lead to the client being caught under the head pad and/or choking.

Or

##### **For the client who does not have a history of equipment breakage, but has the potential to break equipment:**

The Single Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware moves posteriorly in response to client forces and then returns to a starting position. The Dynamic Head Support Hardware is recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client to prevent equipment breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

Absorbing these forces can also protect the brain and cervical area from injury from sudden, forceful and/or repeated impacts as well as sustained forces. Finally, by absorbing forces and providing limited movement, the client may be less likely to come off of the head pad which can lead to the client being caught under the head pad and/or choking.

## **2. For a client who requires Dynamic Head Support Hardware to absorb extensor tone and prevent client injury:**

The Single Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware moves posteriorly in response to client forces and then returns to a starting position. Dynamic Head Support Hardware is recommended to absorb forces resulting from active client extensor tone. By absorbing and diffusing these forces, extensor tone can be decreased. Reducing extensor tone can increase function, sitting tolerance and conserve energy.

Absorbing these forces can also protect the brain and cervical area from injury from sudden, forceful and/or repeated impacts as well as sustained forces. Finally, by absorbing forces and providing limited movement, the client may be less likely to come off of the head pad which can lead to the client being caught under the head pad and/or choking.

## **Multi Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware**

### **1. For a client who requires Dynamic Head Support Hardware to prevent equipment breakage:**

#### **For the client with a history of equipment breakage:**

The Multi Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware moves posteriorly and laterally (capturing rotational movements) in response to client forces and then returns to a starting position. The Dynamic Head Support Hardware is recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client which have led to equipment breakage in the past and to prevent future breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

Absorbing these forces can also protect the brain and cervical area from injury from sudden, forceful and/or repeated impacts as well as sustained forces. Finally, by absorbing forces and providing limited movement, the client may be less likely to come off of the head pad which can lead to the client being caught under the head pad and/or choking.

Or

#### **For the client who does not have a history of equipment breakage, but has the potential to break equipment:**

The Multi Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware moves posteriorly and laterally (capturing rotational movements) in response to client forces and then returns to a starting position. The Dynamic Head Support Hardware is recommended to absorb forces exerted by the client to prevent equipment breakage. The dynamic components absorb these excessive forces, protecting the wheelchair frame, seating system and hardware from breakage. Breakage may result in the client being unable to use their wheelchair and/or seating system until repairs are made.

Absorbing these forces can also protect the brain and cervical area from injury from sudden,

forceful and/or repeated impacts as well as sustained forces. Finally, by absorbing forces and providing limited movement, the client may be less likely to come off of the head pad which can lead to the client being caught under the head pad and/or choking.

## **2. For a client who requires Dynamic Head Support Hardware to absorb extensor tone:**

The Multi Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware moves posteriorly and laterally (capturing rotational movements) in response to client forces and then returns to a starting position. Dynamic Head Support Hardware is recommended to absorb forces resulting from active client extensor tone. By absorbing and diffusing these forces, extensor tone can be decreased. Reducing extensor tone can increase function, sitting tolerance and conserve energy.

Absorbing these forces can also protect the brain and cervical area from injury from sudden, forceful and/or repeated impacts as well as sustained forces. Finally, by absorbing forces and providing limited movement, the client may be less likely to come off of the head pad which can lead to the client being caught under the head pad and/or choking.

## **Lateral Component Hardware**

This wording can be used in conjunction with appropriate wording for the Single or Multi-Axis Dynamic Head Support Hardware.

### **1. For a client who requires Lateral Component Hardware for postural alignment:**

The Lateral Component Hardware attaches to the Dynamic Head Support Hardware and provides lateral support to the head to limit neck rotation and lateral flexion, encouraging a midline position for improved visual regard, breathing, and swallowing.

### **2. For a client who requires Lateral Component Hardware for switch mounting:**

The Lateral Component Hardware attaches to the Dynamic Head Support Hardware and provides mounting for a switch by the side of the head for access to an assistive technology device (specify device).

*Michelle L. Lange, OTR/L, ABDA, ATP/SMS, 5/11/17, revised 1/17/18*

---

### **About the Author**

Michelle Lange is an occupational therapist with 30 years of experience and has been in private practice, Access to Independence, for over 10 years. She is a well-respected lecturer, both nationally and internationally and has authored numerous texts, chapters, and articles. She is the co-editor of *Seating and Wheeled Mobility: a clinical resource guide*, editor of *Fundamentals in Assistive Technology*, 4th ed., NRRTS Continuing Education Curriculum Coordinator and Clinical Editor of *Directions* magazine. Michelle is a RESNA Fellow and member of the Clinician Task Force. Michelle is a certified ATP, certified SMS and is a Senior Disability Analyst of the ABDA.