

(Place on your letterhead)

Date:

Recipient's Address:

Recipient's Name:

(Patient's Name) is a (age) year-old man/woman with a (level of amputation) amputation. (Additional Medical History)

(Patient's Name) is a K3 level ambulator as he/she is capable of ambulating at variable cadence and navigating uneven terrain and obstacles within his/her community. (Patient Name) is employed as a (occupation). As a condition of his/her occupation, (Patient Name) is required to (description of job activities that require the use of the Kinterra [ambulation on slopes/ramps/hills/uneven terrain, long periods of standing, squatting, extended periods of sitting. [Click here to view Kinterra Target User Benefits.](#)] (Patient's Name) also enjoys (hobbies/other activities). (Discuss patient's vocational and recreational lifestyle and how they relate to the function of Kinterra)

(Patient's Name) has been fit with a prosthesis that utilizes the Kinterra™ Hydraulic Foot/Ankle System, in order to accommodate the demands of his/her active lifestyle. The Kinterra utilizes two L codes shown below:

L 5981: flex-walk system or equal

L 5968: multiaxial ankle with swing phase active dorsiflexion feature

Kinterra™ Hydraulic Foot/Ankle System Justification

The ability to replicate the adaptability of the human body is a common challenge in the world of prosthetics. Unlike the Kinterra which features an articulating ankle, passive prosthetic feet only attempt to mimic natural foot and ankle function during level-ground walking. Passive feet fall short of providing the critical function of ankle movement, specifically dorsiflexion during swing phase and plantar flexion at terminal stance. This is a significant limitation for amputees because the world is not flat. Amputees are required at a minimum to navigate community ramps, sloped yards and driveways and generally irregular terrains. While capable of ambulating in these environments, (Patient Name) reports instability and residual limb discomfort while (list patient activities and environments traversed). The use of a foot with articulating ankle would significantly improve (Patient Name's) function and comfort level in these environments.

The Kinterra foot provides benefits of a dynamic energy returning carbon fiber foot with the benefits of an articulated hydraulic ankle to improve stability on all surfaces. The articulated ankle motion allows our patient to ambulate over varied terrains by adapting the ankle position to match the underlying gradient. The dynamic heel and hydraulic unit provide dampening at heel strike followed by adaptation

to the ground slope. This in turn allows our patient to reach foot flat quickly, providing stability at the knee and giving the amputee increased confidence while ambulating. The dynamic carbon-fiber foot is then loaded from mid-stance to toe-off to store energy and assist the patient with forward propulsion, providing a smooth and natural gait.

The hydraulic ankle provides 12 degrees of hydraulic movement which provides great benefit over a passive prosthetic foot for users frequently walking on uneven terrain, ramps and slopes. This 12 degrees added range of motion reduces forces within the socket that may prevent injury to the residual limb as well as reduce posterior moments that can destabilize the knee during slope descent. Comfort is improved while standing on slopes and while sitting down. While sitting, the ankle plantar flexes, which reduces the pressure on the posterior portion of the amputee's residual limb providing greater comfort and preventing skin and liner breakdown. Dorsiflexion is important to prevent tripping by lifting the toe during swing phase to prevent catching the toe on uneven surfaces such as carpet, door thresholds, grass, uneven sidewalks or wooden plank walkways, allowing the patient to be more confident when walking on such surfaces. The additional flexibility also allows the amputee to safely squat and remain in a crouched position, without creating uncomfortable forces inside the socket and increasing balance.

This foot also incorporates a dorsi-assist feature to provide better toe clearance after kneeling or if the patient stops on the prosthesis and then changes direction. This feature can help prevent stumbles and falls, improving the patient's balance and confidence.

In conclusion, the Kinterra™ Hydraulic Foot/Ankle System provides active ankle dorsiflexion and plantar flexion (L 5968) in addition to the dynamic energy return characteristics of the carbon fiber foot (L 5981). The active ROM of the ankle provides additional knee stability and support on uneven surfaces, declines and inclines and is ideal for sitting and squatting. (Patient Name) requires the use of this prosthetic foot to increase mobility and decrease discomfort and instability while (patient activities).

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. If you have any further questions, please feel free to call me to discuss.

Sincerely,

Clinician Name

Contact Info