



University of Wisconsin
**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

DIVISION OF PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY
600 Highland Avenue, Madison, WI 53792
(608)263-1400 • Fax (608)265-9695

October 30, 2006

Aquila Corporation
1309 Norplex Drive, Suite 6
La Crosse, WI 54601

To Whom It May Concern:

Medical History and Level of Function

Your client Keith , was diagnosed with a T-8 spinal cord injury due to a motor vehicle accident. This condition has resulted in a complete paralysis below the waist and lower extremities. He has a history of bilateral ischial and coccyx decubitus ulcers. Since 2001, he has used a power wheelchair for his mobility and power tilt weight shifts.

Level of Function

Keith needs assistance dressing, bathing, transfers, and some sitting balance. He is modified independent with power wheelchair mobility using a joystick. He is modified independent for weight shifts and uses a power tilt system.

Current Equipment

Mr. has a Sunrise Medical power wheelchair (Quickie) with a power tilt system. He used a variety of cushions to help prevent skin breakdown; however, none have helped to stabilize his problems until now. Cushions that have been ruled out include Cloud, ROHO High Profile, and Jay 4 gel cushions. When Mr. was seen at the University of Wisconsin Hospital & Clinics, he had bilateral ischial decubitus ulcers. His sitting time was an hour or two. He was loaned an Airpulse PK cushion. He is starting to sit for periods of three to seven hours per day. The Airpulse PK cushion is being recommended since it has allowed Keith to continue to heal (without setback, including new ulcers) and increased sitting time.

Recommended Equipment

Airpulse PK cushion with extra cover. This is the only cushion we have identified to allow Keith to sit between three to seven hours per day without additional skin breakdown. This cushion will help your client avoid costly surgery to correct pressure sores.

Thank you for your immediate attention to these items, which are essential to your client's good health, independence, and safety.

Sincerely,

Karol A. Gutowski, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
Residency Program Director
Chief of Plastic Surgery, Wm S Middleton VA Hospital