



HOME OF THE BUDDY BIKE®

[Date]

To: [Insurance Company]
[Address]

RE: Request for Predetermination

RE: Patient Name: _____
Identification Number: _____
Group Number: _____

Dear Medical Review Board,

The _____ family is seeking assistance in obtaining a Buddy Bike® for therapeutic purposes for their child, _____, who has been diagnosed with _____. I would like to submit information supporting the classification of The Buddy Bike as an adaptive bicycle for riders with special needs that may be classified as code E1399 Durable Medical Equipment Miscellaneous.

Bikes For Every Body LLC is the manufacturer and distributor of The Buddy Bike®, an alternative inline tandem bicycle (bicycle for two). Its features make it beneficial for riders with cognitive disabilities and other special needs. The Buddy Bike places the smaller rider in the front seat while the rear rider controls the steering. It is shorter in length than a standard tandem, has a unique handlebar setup and has a lower front seat so both riders can safely enjoy the view. The Buddy Bike is CPSC safety-rated to support up to 380 pounds and may be appropriate for riders of most ages and abilities. For smaller riders who can't reach the pedals, we offer optional fold-out foot pegs to rest their feet out of the way of the pedal path. Please note that riders must be able to sit upright and balance on a standard bicycle seat to ride the Buddy Bike.

The Buddy Bike has been officially tested, rated and recognized as a product that is friendly for children of all abilities by the National Lekotek Center. The following is a summary of their report which can be found at our product listing at www.ableplay.org.

The Buddy Bike can be empowering for riders with special needs. Riding the same bike as the caregiver or teacher lessens the skills and the number of steps necessary to successfully ride a bike. The front rider has their own handlebars to feel like they are steering without actually having control of the bike and they can contribute to pedaling and propelling the bicycle forward. The rider seated in the front has an unobstructed view for maximum visual stimulation and tactile stimulation in the form of wind on his/her face. The seats are close enough for easy communication between the riders making it easier to keep the person with a disability on task without lagging behind, turning a different way or stopping on their own. A rider with a disability is able to keep up with family and friends when riding in a group so they are no longer left behind.

Per the National Lekotek Center, the therapeutic benefits of the Buddy Bike include:

- Provides physical activity which directly combats obesity.
- Strengthens core muscles for stability.

Bikes For Every Body LLC

2775 NE 163rd Street, Suite 118, North Miami Beach, FL 33160 • 786.489.2453 • buddybike.com / bikesforeverybody.com

- Improves balance and exercises reciprocal leg movements.
- Improves motor planning and gross motor skills.
- Provides visual and tactile stimulation.
- May improve full body sensory awareness.
- Helps improve attention and assists children in focusing on cognitive tasks presented after by providing riders with proprioceptive input.
- Encourages teamwork and verbal communication.
- Provides family activity and an opportunity for practicing community social skills.

In addition to this report, we have many therapist and customer testimonials listed in our web site which support the research of the National Lekotek Center. Our web site also contains testimonials of how the Buddy Bike has been used successfully in therapeutic and educational programs.

I hope you will consider the request by this family. In covering an adaptive bicycle like the Buddy Bike, you may eliminate or reduce medical expenses such as medication, other more costly therapies and treatments related to weight gain and lack of physical activity.

Sincerely,

Shelley L. Patterson
Founder/Owner
Bikes For Every Body LLC – Home of The Buddy Bike®
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786.489.2453