**Letter of Medical Necessity, Purathick Natural Thickener**

Patient’s Name

DOB

Month, Day, Year

To Whom It May Concern:

This patient shows *oral (R13.11) oropharyngeal (R13.12) pharyngeal (R13.13) pharyngoesophageal* *(R13.14) phase dysphagia* evidenced by:

□ Clinical signs and symptoms while eating or drinking (coughing, choking, chest congestion, cyanosis)

□ Modified barium swallow study (MBS)/Videofluoroscopic swallow study (VFSS)

□ Fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES)

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dysphagia is a swallowing disorder that can lead to tracheal aspiration. Dysphagia can contribute to dehydration, costly hospital admissions, medical procedures and treatments, and can promote the use of enteral tube feedings.

Thickening feeds is the most successful feeding intervention associated with improved outcomes for children and adults with oropharyngeal dysphagia. Therefore, thickening liquids is a medical necessity for this patient.

Purathick Natural Thickener is the only USDA certified organic, Kosher, vegan, non-GMO, and hypoallergenic powder thickener (HCPCS Code B4100) that can significantly reduce episodes of aspiration by facilitating safer swallowing, for adults and children over 12 months of age. It is made from three simple ingredients including tapioca maltodextrin, tara gum and calcium carbonate. Purathick can easily be used in hot and cold liquid, is tasteless, odorless, and smooth, and doesn’t thicken over time.

*[If applicable, describe successful trial with Purathick]*

**We recommend that this patient’s liquids are thickened with Purathick to:**

□ Slightly thick/thin nectar using 1 scoop/stick pack (1 teaspoon) Purathick per 7-8 fluid ounces

□ Mildly thick/nectar using 1 scoop/stick pack (1 teaspoon) Purathick per 5-6 fluid ounces

□ Moderately thick/honey using 1 scoop/1 stick pack (1 teaspoon) Purathick per 3-4 fluid ounces

□ Extremely thick/pudding using 1 scoop/1 stick pack (1 teaspoon) Purathick per 2 fluid ounces

The Purathick 125g jar offers 52 servings. The box of Purathick Stick Packs 72g has 30 servings.

This patient requires \_\_\_\_\_\_ ounces of liquid daily and will require \_\_\_\_\_\_\_containers of Purathick per week.

Thank you for approving Purathick for this patient.

Sincerely,

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Provider Physician