

Date:

To whom it may concern

RE: Patient

D.O.B.

My patient is living with Tetraplegia/Paraplegia as a result of Spinal Cord Injury.

There are many impacts of Spinal Cord Injury that may require additional specialised support in a hospital setting including:

- Neurogenic bowel
- Neurogenic bladder
- Skin integrity and pressure wound care
- Autonomic Dysreflexia

In addition, people with mobility impairments as a result of Spinal Cord Injury may need assistance with daily activities such as getting in and out of bed, showering, eating meals and taking medications.

I realise that should this patient be admitted to hospital in the current COVID-19 environment, some of the supports indicated above may not be easily available, or form part of the regular routines on the ward where the patient is admitted.

However, I recommend that reasonable adjustments are made to your nursing routines wherever possible to ensure the patient's additional needs are met to prevent any unintended health and wellbeing consequences arising from their admission to hospital.

The steps you could consider taking include:

- Spending time with the patient to clearly understand their routine and requirements, and which must be prioritised
- Identifying nursing staff with extended competencies of bowel therapy to support this patient to maintain their established bowel routine, which must be done regularly to avoid complications
- Supporting the patient to access their own Personal Support Workers (trained carers supplied by NDIS-registered disability support agencies, who understand these routines and the supports required)

Thank you for your time and consideration, and if you have any questions about the patient's care and history please contact myself or my clinic.

Kind regards