**Date**:

**To**: *Insurance Co.*

*Insurance Co. Address*

**From**: *Physician name*

**SUBJECT:** Request for coverage/reimbursement for Functional Formularies Liquid Hope Peptide feeding tube formula.

I am requesting insurance coverage and reimbursement on behalf of my patient, *name*, *DOB dd/mm/yyyy*, who has been under my care since \_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_. I have prescribed Functional Formularies Liquid Hope Peptide feeding tube formula for the dietary management of [*insert* *diagnosis or condition].* I have determined that this formula is medically necessary. I am prescribing Liquid Hope Peptide as a part of this patient's treatment plan for the health benefits that it may provide and to ensure that the patient is receiving a complete formula when they are being fed, which may lead to better health outcomes, considering their medical diagnosis and individual nutritional needs. The patient requires this formula for their nutritional management as a result of his/her diagnosis and/or condition, and not as a convenience.

*[IMPORTANT: Verify medical necessity for formula, including diagnosis, documented failure or intolerance to other formulas, current height/weight, growth chart data, history of weight loss, pertinent lab results, medications, and potential outcome if the formula is denied.]*

Functional Formularies Liquid Hope Peptide is an adult peptide enteral formula for patients 18 years of age or older who have difficulty with the digestion and/or absorption of intact protein and may benefit from an organic, plant-based peptide formula made with real whole food ingredients that are free of milk, eggs, wheat, soy, sesame, fish, shellfish, and peanuts. The organic hydrolyzed pea protein, organic garbanzo beans, organic green peas, organic brown rice, organic sprouted quinoa, organic almond butter, and organic pumpkin seed protein provide all the essential amino acids necessary to meet an adult’s overall protein requirements. Liquid Hope Peptide contains 40% of the fat calories from organic coconut MCT oil. Medium chain triglycerides (MCTs) do not require bile or pancreatic enzymes for digestion and are readily absorbed and made available to bodily systems to aid with tolerance. The diverse, fermentable fiber types in Liquid Hope Peptide increase the microbial diversity and commensal bacteria populations fostering a healthy gut microbiome. This can help improve overall GI function and can ameliorate diarrhea caused by a low amount of beneficial intestinal flora.

The use of an enteral formula composed of whole foods has been shown to be clinically advantageous for several medical conditions and/or feeding problems that are often associated with intolerance to standard tube feeding formulas:

* Intestinal resectioning and/or GI surgery (3)
* Nausea (1,2,6,9)
* Vomiting (1,2,4,5,6,9)
* Bloating (1,9)
* Diarrhea (1,2,6,7,8,9)
* Constipation (1,2,9)
* Abdominal pain (2,6,9)
* Reflux/gagging/retching (4,5)
* Malnutrition (4)
* Volume intolerance (4)
* Inability/difficulty transitioning to oral feeding (5,6)
* Short bowel syndrome (10)

Liquid Hope Peptide is a complete source of plant-based nutrition and is intended for the nutritional management of those patients with conditions or disease states that impact digestion and absorption, neurological conditions, dysphagia, and/or those requiring a long-term tube feeding product to meet nutritional needs and desire a real whole food component.

Liquid Hope Peptide feeding tube formula is formulated to provide 100% of the Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) for 26 key vitamins and minerals for patients 18 years of age or older in 4 pouches (~1420 mL). Liquid Hope Peptide meets all food safety requirements as well as all GRAS, HACCP, and CGMP standards. It is produced in an FDA/USDA registered facility with a USDA inspector on-site. It is shelf-stable, requires no refrigeration, and has a two-year shelf life.

Liquid Hope Peptide is intended for use under medical supervision. Functional Formularies Liquid Hope Peptide feeding tube formula is recognized by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as “an enteral formula, nutritionally complete, hydrolyzed proteins (amino acids and peptide chain), including fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube”, found in HCPCS Category B4153.

Thank you for reviewing this request. Please contact me should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

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*Signature of prescribing MD, PA-C, ARNP Date*

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*Printed Name of prescribing MD, PA-C, ARNP*

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*Title Phone/Email*

**Attachments**: You may want to include pertinent information supporting your directive including Clinical Notes, Reports, Prescription, and/or other relevant documentation.

**References:**

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7. Schmidt S. et al. The effect of a natural food based tube feeding in minimizing diarrhea in critically ill neurological patients. *Clin Nutr*. 2019;38(1):332-350.
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