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Justification Template: Lento Care Chair

When justifying seating prescriptions, it's important to personalise your reports to each individual client. Telling their story and painting a picture of how your chosen chair will support their care needs and enhance their quality of life helps to secure funding.

However, writing the technical aspects of a justification can be time-consuming and repetitive. Use this template to speed things up!

Copy and paste the relevant justification statements into your report:

FUNCTIONALITY	JUSTIFICATION
Tilt-in-space	<p>The seat and backrest tilt together:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides pressure relief by redistributing the user's body weight over a larger surface area. • The user can be easily repositioned throughout the day. This can help to prevent pressure sores. • Aids in preventing the user sliding forward in their chair. • Allows the user to recline comfortably whilst maintaining a stable pelvic position. Pelvic stability promotes good posture. • Allows the user's legs to be safely raised above their hips, improving circulation and reducing any swelling in the legs. • Helps to correctly position hoisted users. Tilting the chair back before transferring the user ensures their pelvis makes proper contact with the backrest.
Backrest recline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having an adjustable back angle can help to maximise the swallow potential for users with swallowing difficulties. • When combined with tilt-in-space, this takes further pressure off the spine. This helps to prevent pressure sores in sensitive areas like the sacrum. • Allows the chair to accommodate users with hip contractures by increasing the back angle. • Allows bariatric users to move the abdominal pannus between their elevated legs and away from the lung fields, ensuring their ventilation is not impeded. • Allows chronic back pain sufferers to dictate exactly what angle minimises their symptoms. • This allows users with fixed spines to be able to sit out.
Articulating legrest elevation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps to reduce swelling and pressure and improve circulation. • Allows the legs to be extended at the knees while elevated. Over time, this improves muscle length.

ONLINE OT KIT

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Negative leg angle	<p>The legrest can be moved down and back under the chair.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective for users with leg contractures or deformities where their knees are in flexion (degree of flexion less than 90 degrees). • This position accommodates the lower limb angle, giving the user a chance of sitting out. • The footplate can then be risen to support the feet.
Manual action	<p>For tilt-in-space, backrest recline and articulating legrest elevation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard specification, no additional cost. • Suitable for users who cannot operate the chair independently and require assistance from a carer. • No charging required
Electric action	<p>For tilt-in-space, backrest recline and articulating legrest elevation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is required for the user to operate the chair themselves. It allows the user to reposition themselves throughout the day for comfort and pressure relief. • Promotes independence and empowers the user. • For bariatric users, this can assist carers with moving and handling. • Allows the chair to be operated safely by frail carers in private residences. It minimises the physical effort required to adjust the chair. • There is the option for a combination of both manual and electric actions. This can be used to maximise clinical benefits whilst minimising cost.
Adjustable seat width	<p>Range of adjustment: 15 – 22". Correct seat width supports good posture and helps prevent leaning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective for users who experience weight fluctuations. The chair can be easily readjusted to maintain correct sizing as their weight changes. • Effective in multi-user environments. The chair can be resized and recycled for different users. • Allows the sides of chair to be moved away from hip area.
Adjustable seat depth	<p>Range of adjustment: 13 - 23". Correct seat depth prevents sliding and localised pressure build-up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective in multi-user environments. The chair can be resized and recycled for different users. • Ensures the correct amount of support is provided for the upper leg. • Accommodates for leg length discrepancies. • Allows for increased length support when user has their lower limbs up all the time.

ONLINE OT KIT

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Height and angle-adjustable footplate	<p>Range of adjustment: 16 - 22". The feet must be supported when seated. Otherwise, 94% of the user's body weight goes through the buttocks and thighs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A height-adjustable footplate ensures the feet are support in any position. • An angle-adjustable footplate is effective for users with knee contractures. • Accommodates fixed angle positions. • Correct foot support allows for sensory feedback which is necessary for certain conditions.
Footpad	<p>Can be secured to the footplate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used where the user has shorter leg length, ensuring they have the correct foot support. • Bespoke footpads can be done to accommodate various leg lengths.
Adjustable arm height	<p>Range of adjustment: 6 - 9". If the arms are too high, it will cause neck and shoulder pain. If they are too low, it will cause dragging on the shoulders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective in multi-user environments. The chair can be resized and recycled for different users. • The ability to increase the arm height allows for extra lateral support.
Removable armrests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows carers to carry out personal care whilst the user is seated. • Facilitates side transfers. • Facilitates the application of hoist slings.
Adjustable back height	<p>Range of adjustment: 22 - 24". The backrest must be high enough to support the head and neck. Otherwise the user will develop neck pain. Inadequate support can also cause the head to drop forward. This can lead to difficulties with communication, breathing, and swallowing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective in multi-user environments. The chair can be resized and recycled for different users. • Correct back height where base of spine to head is supported, aids in reduction of pressure issues. • Alignment issues can be addressed where base of spine to head are fully supported.
Waterfall backrest	<p>This backrest has three individual cushions with a soft lateral either side of the middle cushion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard specification, no additional cost. • Aids midline position, which in turn aids spatial orientation. • Encourages good postural position. • Offers extra comfort. • The laterals can help users to feel safe and well supported. • Offers lateral support for users with a tendency to lean. • Offers support for the back of the upper part of the arm (tricep area). • The position and density of the cushions can be easily adjusted. This offers flexibility to tailor the backrest to each user's needs.

ONLINE OT KIT

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Cocoon backrest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers hip to head lateral support on both sides, therefore aiding midline and spatial orientation. • Encourages good postural position. • Offers extra comfort. • Cocoon design allows the user to feel safe and secure. • Offers extra lateral support for users with a tendency to lean.
Soft head cushion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers extra support to the neck area. Especially effective if the natural shape of the user's spine has altered. • Offers extra support to the head and neck if muscles to this region are weak.
Profiled head cushion	<p>U-shaped to fit the head, neck, and shoulders. Inadequate support can also cause the head to drop forward. This can lead to difficulties with communication, breathing, and swallowing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective for users with reduced head control. • Aids in the gradual improvement of lateral flexion of the head back towards midline, by having the option of altering the density of the cushion.
Backrest wedge support	<p>Triangular positioning supports. Available in 3" and 6".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective for users who require additional lateral support. • Can be placed at different levels and angles to meet the needs of different people. • Option of more than one wedge if extra support required.
Extended wings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer increased lateral support to the top half of the body by supporting more of the inner cushions. This, in turn, further improves head position and generally improves midline and alignment issues.
2-point belt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective for users with decreased stabilisation who are physically unable to achieve correct pelvic positioning and posture without the extra stability a belt provides. • Offers security for some users. • Used for safety during transportation.
4-point belt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective for users with decreased stabilisation who are physically unable to achieve correct pelvic positioning and posture without the extra stability a belt provides. • Aids in prevention of slipping down the chair for some users. • Offers security for some users. • Used for safety during transportation. • Helps align rest of the body once the pelvis is in good position.
Foam seat cushion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard specification, no additional cost. • Suitable for users considered Medium Risk for pressure issues. • Offers good comfort.

ONLINE OT KIT

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Gel seat cushion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required for users considered High risk of pressure issues. • Design allows for comfort.
Alternating air cushion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered to those considered Very High risk for pressure issues. • Can be integral to chair cushion, preventing it from moving and altering the user's good position.
Removable cushion covers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective in multi-user environments where regular cleaning is required in line with infection control policies. • Required for users with incontinence issues to enable easy cleaning.
Vinyl and vapour-permeable materials	<p>Vinyl on the outer areas of the chair and vapour-permeable stretch fabric on contact areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resistant to prevent ingress. • Wipeable and easy clean. This is effective for users with incontinence issues. • 4-way stretch to provide pressure relief. • Vinyl is strong and durable to prevent damage to the chair when moved.
Castors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces the number of hoisted transfers required as the chair can be moved from room to room and outdoors. • This improves the user's comfort and increases their opportunities for social interaction.

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Justification Examples

Here are some examples of how you can use these justification statements when writing up a client's report.

EXAMPLE 1 - MR B

Mr B is a 59-year-old gentleman who is fully hoisted and has left sided weakness and mild incontinence. He lives in a care home. Due to his weakness he has a moderate lean. He is unable to maintain his left foot in a neutral position. He is under the care of the speech and language team for swallowing issues. There has been some concern lately for his low mood.

I would like to put forward the following care chair as it crucially meets all his needs. I have prescribed the following given what we know about Mr.B:

- **Gel cushion:** As Mr B is immobile and this chair will be his main chair. Mr B is at risk of pressure issues due to his immobility.
- **Extended wings and backrest wedge supports:** The extended wings will give increased support to his head position by further supporting the inner cushions. The backrest wedges will offer additional support to his left side and encourage the midline position.
- **Angle adjustable footplate:** This will gradually support his ankle back to a neutral position.
- **Materials of the chair:** They are easy to clean down which will be crucial due to his incontinence.
- **Tilt-in-space:** As standard on the chair will allow him to maintain a good postural position and to aid in pressure relief.
- **Backrest recline:** As standard on the chair, will be used to achieve desired angle for optimum swallow. This will be crucial for his speech and language sessions.
- **Mobile chair:** The chair is easy to manoeuvre, therefore Mr B can be moved to areas where he can be socially interactive with others. He enjoys this. The chair can also be brought to level access patio area on fine days. All which will help lift his mood.

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EXAMPLE 2 - MRS Y

Mrs Y is a 29-year-old lady who is 5ft 2" and 12 stone. She lives with her husband who works part time and son who is at school. She has reduced function in her lower limbs due to a car accident. She has been told she may not walk again. She has fluid retention to both legs. A care package is currently being considered.

I would like to put forward the following care chair as it meets all her needs. I have prescribed the following given what we know about Mrs. Y:

- **All electric chair:** Mrs Y will be at home on her own at times and she has the capacity to operate the chair safely. Having the electric chair will allow Mrs Y to alter the chair:
 1. To aid pressure relief
 2. To alter her position if she has any pain
 3. To alter angle of legs to increase muscle length
 4. To keep herself comfortable at all times.
- **Gel cushion:** Mrs Y is at risk of pressure sores and this chair will be her main chair.
- **Width adjustment:** is standard on the chair and this will be of huge benefit as Mrs Y's weight fluctuates.
- **Footpad:** Required as Mrs Y is short in stature. The footpad will ensure her feet are supported and thus aiding in pressure relief distribution.
- **Articulating leg elevation:** This will be crucial for the management of Mrs Y's fluid retention in her lower limbs.