

Simmons Grab & Associates, LLC

246 Highwood Avenue; Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

(201) 670-9156 ♦ Facsimile (201) 670-9507

www.theSGAssociates.com

Role and Function of a Certified Life Care Planner

1. Purpose of a Life Care Plan Over a Life Time

A life care plan is a dynamic document based upon published standards of practice, comprehensive assessment, data analysis and research which provides an organized concise plan for current and future needs with associated costs for individuals who have experienced catastrophic injury or have chronic health care needs. ¹

2. Types of Cases that may utilize a Life Care Plan

- a. Workers' Compensation
- b. Catastrophic
- c. Personal Injury
- d. Medical Malpractice
- e. Product Liability
- f. Motor Vehicle Accidents

3. Diagnosis that May Be Represented

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. Spinal Cord (SCI) | j. Pediatric Cerebral Palsy /
Brachial Plexus |
| b. Acquired Brain Injury | k. Post-traumatic Stress
Syndrome |
| c. Pediatric Brain Damage | l. AIDS / HIV |
| d. Ventilation Dependent | m. Geriatric |
| e. Burns | n. Abuse |
| f. Amputations | o. Stress Coping |
| g. Back Injury / Chronic
Pain | p. Transplantation |
| h. Psychiatric | q. Visual Impairment |
| i. Reflex Sympathetic
Dystrophy (RSD) | |

4. Tasks of the Life Care Planner

- a. Review Medical Records & Supporting Documentation
- b. Meet with the individual being evaluated and family, as well as assess home environment or environment the individual is living in.
- c. Collaborate with medical and rehabilitation team
- d. Prepare plan with required medical goods and services with associated costs
- e. Coordinating with a Vocational Expert, if involved
- f. Act as expert witness in court to defend Life Care Plan
- g. Educate jury on disability, needs and limitations

¹ A combined definition of the University of Florida and Intellicus Life Care Planning Conference and the American Academy of Nurse Life Care Planners presented at the forensic section meeting, NARPPS/IARP Annual Conference, Colorado Springs and agreed upon April 3, 1998.