

Albee Life Care Plan Handout
Life Care Plan of Edna Smith

Referral Source: Plaintiff Attorney

Edna Smith, Age-42

Presented to local ER on own due to 2-hour episode of nose bleeding and several days of blood in stools

On blood thinners and found to have severely elevated INR

The differential diagnoses included nephrolithiasis, urinary tract infection, appendicitis, diverticulitis, intracranial hemorrhage, gastrointestinal hemorrhage, mesenteric ischemia and supratherapeutic INR. Many of Ms. Smith's labs were abnormal. The protime [PT] was over 100 and her INR was incalculable due to elevation of the PT. Her prothrombin time was 127.6. A CT of the head was read as normal. A CT of the abdomen and pelvis showed fat stranding. Surgery was consulted to evaluate for appendicitis. The plan was to reverse Ms. Smith's INR with PCC [precipitated calcium carbonate], given she had a past anaphylactic reaction to Vitamin K.

Staff administered the PCC with a plan to admit, however, while still in the ER, Ms. Smith became unresponsive and codes / requires intubation and put on a ventilator.

It was determined that the likely cause of Ms. Smith's acute change in hemodynamics and mentation could possibly be a pulmonary emboli verses an MI verses **an ischemic stroke, in the setting of PCC administration.**

Ms. Smith never recovers and while she eventually comes off the ventilatory, she remains in a vegetative coma state with a tracheostomy.

Once stable enough for discharge, the family was encouraged to place Ms. Smith in a skilled nursing facility.

The family refused SNF placement and insisted on taking their loved one home and that is what they did.

Routine Medical Care

<u>Description</u>	<u>Frequency of Visits</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Cost per Visit</u>	<u>Cost per Year</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>
Primary Care Physician / Nurse Practitioner Home Visit CPT: 99350	12 x per Year 1 through Life	Monthly home visits for assessments, treatments of acute illness, management of chronic conditions, medication refills, diagnostic testing / monitoring [such as labs and urinalysis] Provide g-tube changes and tracheostomy cannula changes as needed / at least 4 x per year for each	Mean = \$234.00 per visit [FairHealth Benchmark based in GeoZip 857] <i>For consideration:</i> Provider, M____ R____, NP, charges \$200.00 per visit and receives \$150.00 from the current payor source	\$2,808.00 per Year 1 through Life	As supported by the medical records of M____ R____, NP Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R
Urologist Clinic Visit CPT: 99211 to 99215	1 to 2 x per year Midline = 1.5 visits per Year 1 through Life	Manage spastic hyperreflexic bladder / Foley catheter issue complications	Mean = \$152.00 per visit [FairHealth Benchmark based in GeoZip 857] <i>To date, a urologist has not been established</i>	\$228.00 per Year 1 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R

Other routine medical care in the LCP included PM&R and/or Neurologist and GI

Non-routine Evaluations included orthopedist and pulmonologist

Psychological support for family was listed in a separate table

Therapies were in a separate table

Wheelchairs and Accessories

<u>Description</u>	<u>Year of Purchase</u>	<u>Replacement Schedule</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Cost per Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Year</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>
Wheelchair with Tilt-In-Space, head rest, removable arm rests, leg rests and seat support <i>Invacare</i>	Year 1	Every 5 years*	Allow for being out of bed and moved around home or community	\$4,058.00 per purchase [Invacare direct purchase]	\$4,058.00 per Year 1 Then \$811.60 per Year 2 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R
Maintenance of wheelchair	Year 2	Annual allowance	Maintain equipment for safety and longevity	Based on 10% of purchase price* [local vendor]	\$405.80 per Year 2 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement
Seating system for wheelchair <i>Invacare PinDot Series: cushion seat and cushion back</i>	Year 1	Every 3 years*	Protection from skin breakdown when out of bed High end system due to risk of skin breakdown	Estimate = \$1,410.00 per purchase [Invacare direct purchase]	\$1,410.00 per Year 1 Then \$470.00 per Year 2 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R

*** Redux: Empirical Validation of Medical Equipment Replacement Schedules in Life Care Plans: Marini et al, JLCP Vol 17, No 2, 2019, pp 5-17**

Durable Medical Equipment

<u>Description</u>	<u>Year of Purchase</u>	<u>Replacement Schedule</u>	<u>Purpose of Equipment</u>	<u>Cost per Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Year</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>
Fully Electric Hospital Bed with Half Rails	Convert rental to purchase in Year 1	Every 10 years*	Meet positioning needs of bedbound individual	Mean = \$865.00 per purchase [Amazon, Invacare & MedMart]	\$865.00 per Year 1 Then \$86.50 per Year 2 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology and current use Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement
Over-The-Bed Table	Year 1	Every 10 years*	Use by caregivers while providing care	Mean = \$174.37 per purchase [Amazon, Invacare & MedMart]	\$174.37 per Year 1 Then \$17.44 per Year 2 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement
Alternating Pressure Mattress	Convert rental to purchase in Year 1	Every 3 years*	Meet positioning needs of bedbound individual and prevent decubitus ulcers	Mean = \$991.00 per purchase [Amazon, Invacare & MedMart]	\$991.00 per Year 1 Then \$330.33 per Year 2 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology and current use Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement

Power Hoyer Lift	2014	No replacement needed	Transfer aid to prevent caregiver injury	N/A	\$0	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology and current use Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement
Hoyer Lift Slings Purchase of 1 dry-use sling and 1 wet-use sling	2014 First replacements in Year 1	Every other Year*	For use with Hoyer Lift	Mean = \$66.00 each \$132.00 per purchase of 2 [Spin Life, MedMart and Rehab Mart]	\$132.00 per Year 1 Then \$66.00 per Year 2 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology and current use Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement
Reclining shower chair with Tilt-In-Space feature	Year 1	Every 5 years*	For use when roll-in shower modification completed [To be purchased after appropriate housing identified]	Mean = \$4,119.88 per purchase [Spin Life, MedMart and Rehab Mart]	\$4,119.88 per Year 1 Then \$823.98 per Year 2 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement
Generator, 22,000 Watt	Year 1	One Time Only Purchase	Source of electrical power for emergencies	\$4,697.00 per purchase [Home Depot and Lowes]	\$4,697.00 per Year 1	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement

*** Redux: Empirical Validation of Medical Equipment Replacement Schedules in Life Care Plans: Marini et al, JLCP Vol 17, No 2, 2019, pp 5-17**

Other DME included in the LCP were suction machine, home oxygen including compressor and portable, Kangaroo pump and IV pole

Supplies

<u>Description</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Cost per Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Year</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>
Foley Catheter Insertion Kits with Catheter included #14 per year [monthly plus 2 as needed]	Manage spastic bladder / incontinence	Mean = \$57.91 each [Rehab Mart, Allegro Medical and Vitality Medical]	\$810.74 per Year 1 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology and current use Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement
2000 cc Foley Catheter Bags #14 per year [with each catheter change]	Manage spastic bladder / incontinence	Mean = \$20.21 each [Rehab Mart, Allegro Medical and Vitality Medical]	\$282.94 per Year 1 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology and current use Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement
Leg Strap for catheter tubing #52 per year	Manage spastic bladder / incontinence	Mean = \$7.63 each [Rehab Mart, Allegro Medical and Vitality Medical]	\$396.76 per Year 1 through Life	Tracy Albee, RN based on life care plan methodology and current use Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement

Other supplies included in the LCP were 60 cc syringes, normal saline, alcohol skin preps, tracheostomy cannulas, tracheostomy tube holders / ties, tracheostomy care kit, oxygen tracheostomy masks, hydrogen peroxide, oxygen tubing, oxygen concentrator filters, pulse oximeter, sterile water, gastrostomy tubes, Kangaroo pump bags / tubing, Iso-Source Nutrition, 4x4 split gauze, surgical tape, suction canister, suction machine tubing, Yankauer suction catheters, toothettes, adult diapers, chux, baby wipes, gloves, barrier paste, pill grinder and disinfectant wipes

Diagnostic Testing

<u>Description</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Cost per Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Year</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>
Urinalysis with Culture and Sensitivity CPT: 81000 & 87086	2 to 4 x per year based on suprapubic catheter insertion Midline = 3 x per Year 1 through Life	Monitor for urinary tract infections	UA Mean = \$31.00 Culture Mean = \$152.00 Total = \$183.00 per event [FairHealth Benchmark based in GeoZip 857]	\$549.00 per Year 1 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R
Sputum Culture and Sensitivity CPT: 87070	2 x per Year 1 through Life	Monitor for respiratory infections	Mean = \$291.00 per study [FairHealth Benchmark based in GeoZip 857]	\$582.00 per Year 1 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R
Chest X-rays, 2-View CPT: 71020	2 x per Year 1 through Life	Monitor for respiratory infections	Mean = \$465.00 per study, inclusive of facility fee and radiologist read fee [FairHealth Benchmark based in GeoZip 857]	\$930.00 per Year 1 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R

***Note: Monthly INRs are not included in LCP, as the plaintiff was on Warfarin prior to date of injury**

Other diagnostics included in the LCP were a variety of labs, blood cultures, CT of the brain and upper GI study

Medications

The medications listed in the life care plan are assumed to be required for life, or an equivalent substitute in drug category and price may be substituted over time

<u>Medication</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Cost per Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Year</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>
Baclofen 20 mg four times per day #120 per month	Antispasticity	Mean = \$37.13 per month [Goodrx.com based on 10 local pharmacies]	\$445.56 per Year 1 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R and supported by the current prescription orders
Oxycodone 5 mg/5 ml liquid Allowance of 7.5 ml every 4 hours per day <i>Average use = 11.25 ml per day</i>	Pain management	Mean = \$78.04 per bottle / 2.5 month supply [Would need 5 bottles per year] [Goodrx.com based on 10 local pharmacies]	\$390.20 per Year 1 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R and supported by the current prescription orders
Nutri-Source Fiber 3 mg twice daily #1 canister per month	Bowel regime	Mean = \$12.99 per canister [Walgreens, Walmart and Target OTC]	\$155.88 per Year 1 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R and supported by the current prescription orders
Lovenox Injections 100 mg/ml twice daily #60 per month	Anticoagulation [Pltf was on Warfarin prior to injury with a cost of \$7.00 per month or \$0.23 per day so any offset is negligible]	Mean = \$20.47 per injection or \$40.94 per day [Pltf was on Warfarin prior to injury with a cost of \$0.23 per day] Allowance of \$40.71 per day [Goodrx.com based on 10 local pharmacies]	\$14,859.15 per Year 1 through Life	Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R and supported by the current prescription orders

***Note: The life care plan does not include medications that the plaintiff was on pre-injury, such as antiseizure medications, antihypertensive medications, cholesterol-controlling medications and Gabapentin**

Other medications included in the LCP were Cephalexin and Botox Injections

Home Care

<u>Description of Care</u>	<u>Initial Date of Care</u>	<u>Year to be Suspended</u>	<u>Hours / Shifts / Days of Care/Cost per Unit</u>	<u>Cost per Year</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>
<p>24-hour awake skilled caregivers</p> <p>Agency hire</p> <p>Medication administration multiple time per day, including pain meds as needed and including injections twice daily</p> <p>Management of gastrostomy tube with bolus feedings 5 x per day tube or Kangaroo pump, which at times runs 24 hours per day; includes tube changes 4 x per year and as needed</p> <p>Management of tracheostomy with suctioning, often hourly, continuous oxygen administration and humidifier administration; includes cannula changes 4 x per year and as needed</p> <p>Foley catheter management with twice daily irrigation, twice daily bag management, peri-care several times per day and catheter changes monthly and as needed</p> <p>Skilled assessments</p> <p>Bathing, dressing, hair care, oral care, transferring, range of motion, massage, skin care, transfers, applying braces, health monitoring, turning and repositioning every 1-2 hours around the clock; incontinence care, linen changes, laundry, & clean-up of immediate area</p>	Year 1	End of Life	<p>3 shifts of awake skilled caregivers [LVN or RN licenses]</p> <p>Mean = \$48.00 per hour or \$1,152.00 per 24-hour-day</p> <p>[Maxim Healthcare & Nursing Services Inc*]</p>	\$420,480.00 per Year 1 through Life	<p>Tracy Albee, RN based on LCP methodology</p> <p>Dr. Deborah Doherty, PM&R, in agreement</p>

***Maxim Healthcare and Nursing Services was the only vendor currently located in Tucson providing skilled level of care [LPNs] at this time**

Other home care services included in the LCP were housekeeper and RN case manager