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Dear medical Professional,

Many medical professionals, and patients are unsure on what is required to qualify for disability benefits such as **Employment Support Allowance (ESA)** **Universal Credit (UC)**, and **Personal Independence Payments (PIP)**.

The criteria for these are as follows:

Independence and functionality are the keywords.

Can your patients, repeatedly, reliably, safely in a timely fashion. Without pain, fear, fatigue, stumbles, incontinence, spills, trips, scalds, burns, loss of consciousness, wooziness, dizziness, without seizures, without aids, and / or adaptations, changes of clothes, complete any daily task?

It is down to the functionality of daily living tasks and Mobility. Can your patient for, for example:

Cook, without **risk** of kitchen fires, burns, scalds?

Wash, dress, bathe, without, risk, spills, stumbles, falls, or trips?

If they suffer from Suffer from incontinence do they need a change of clothes? Or suffer shame because of their condition?

If your patient has Asperger's/high functioning or Autistic with learning impairments etc, what other risk are possible? Things such as malnutrition, self-neglect, financial or sexual abuse, could a safeguarding ALERT become necessary? Are they at risk of self-harm or harm to others/members of the public if unsupervised? Are their social skills so inadequate that misunderstanding could become apparent and an issue?

Can they repeatedly reliably and safely, perform daily tasks that an abled body patient can do in a timely fashion, without risk, overwhelming psychological distress precluding any event, pain or exhaustion/fatigue always being present?

PIP is about independence. Can they do a task without the need for supervision or prompting, are they at risk without help?

Whether your patient can use an aid, i.e. walking stick or not, it is about is there a **NEED**, just they are unable to utilize this. This includes the **NEED** for medications, but due to side effects etc, the patient is unable to take them.

Thank you for taking your time to read this. We hope it aids our client and assists you in your difficult job

Sincerely

Tony Lea