



Texas Children's Hospital

Located in the Texas Medical Center

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Houston, Texas 77030
713/770-1000

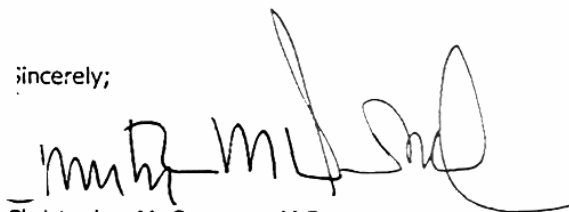
March 23, 2000

Steven [REDACTED] is a young man of 5 years of age who has undergone tracheotomy and requires continuous mechanical ventilatory support due to extreme muscle weakness as a result of Pompe's disease. His history is significant for frequent hospitalizations for the treatment of chronic pneumonia's and atelectatic areas. Prior to his tracheotomy, Steven had been treated in the home with an iron lung and most recently with BiPap via nasal mask to assist his ventilatory efforts in an attempt to keep his lungs clear.

Since his tracheotomy, numerous attempts to wean the pressure support being used to assist his ventilation have not been successful, resulting in recurrence of atelectasis in his left lower lobe and increased oxygen requirement to a level not conducive for discharge to the home under the auspices of home health care. As a result, Steven has been placed on a home ventilator that is able to deliver pressure support in the home environment. Since the implementation of this pressure support, Steven's O2 has been successfully weaned to 35%, and his chest radiograph has remained much improved.

It is for this reason that Steven will require a ventilator in the home capable of delivering pressure support of his spontaneous breaths. Failure to provide him with this added support would result in continued recurrence of his atelectatic areas, an increased O2 requirement, and continued hospitalization or frequent readmission to the hospital for atelectatic areas and pneumonia's.

Sincerely;



Christopher M. Oermann M.D.