

Prosthesis User Functional Level Justification

In the functional level justification, medical reviewers are trying to understand the patient's personal circumstances:

1. Co-morbidities and their effects on mobility and prosthesis use
2. Environmental factors (in and out of home)
3. Community activities that patient will be reliably expected to face and perform on a daily/weekly basis
4. Any vocational considerations affecting ambulation (including cognitive demand)
5. Give detailed narrative of a week in the life of the patient
6. Avoid using simple check box answer or generic descriptions that could be used universally for anyone as the basis for K-Level justification. Be specific to the individual's personal circumstances.

A common error is that most of the activities offered to support the K3 could potentially be K2 or K3. Consider using tools such as Hanger's trademarked K-PAVET®. Note that the K-PAVET® is not a validated instrument, but expanding on narrative associated with the questions, such as questions 1-10 that focus on ADL's, can help to improve justification. Additionally, the K-PAVET® does provide an overall score, however, it is recommended that clinician's use the score provided from instruments such as the Amputee Mobility Predictor® or the Prosthesis Limb User's Survey of Mobility® for a validated indication of performance.

Example 1: In the below example, a transfemoral prosthesis user describes how often he needs to do certain activities of daily living, as well as his functional abilities. This can give guidance to the patient functionality likely being in the range of K2. A validated instrument such as the PLUS-M® can further help establish the patient's functional level.



K-PAVET™

Activities of Daily Living Evaluation					
To accomplish Activities of Daily Living the patient requires the ability to:			Never, Rarely, 3-4 times a Month, 3-4 times a Week, Daily		
Walk with variable cadence*			3-4 times/month		
Walk a distance greater than 400 yards*			3-4 times/week		
Walk on uneven terrain (gravel, grass, curbs)			3-4 times/week		
Walk up and down stairs			Daily		
Walk up and down ramps			3-4 times/week		
Carry or lifting items			Daily		
Walk in public areas or crowds*			Rarely		
Get in and out of a car			Daily		
Bending, kneeling or stooping			Rarely		
Walk, stand or work in confined areas			Daily		
Functional Capabilities					
Patient can:			Not Possible, Potential, Exhibits Ability to Accomplish, Can Accomplish, Presently does daily basis		
Transfer without assistive devices			Exhibits ability to accomplish		
Ambulate on level surfaces at fixed cadence			Potential		
Traverse low level environmental barriers			Potential		
Ambulate with variable cadence*			Potential		
Ambulate at faster than baseline rate*			Not possible		
Limb Strength					
Patient Limb/Joint Strength:			None, Trace, Minimal, Moderate, Normal		
Right side hip extension			Moderate		
Left side hip extension			Moderate		
Right side knee extension (AK on Right side... score None)			Normal		
Left side knee extension (AK on Left side... score None)			Moderate		
Sound side ankle plantar/dorsiflexion (Bilateral AK or AK/BK patient...score None)			Normal		
ADL Score: 29		Functional Score: 5		Limb Strength Score: 17	K-PAVET score: 51
Functional Level					
K0	K1	K2	K2 or K3*	K3	
LEGEND	<20	21-44	45-54	55-65*	66 and Over

Patient Name: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Visit Date: XX/XX/202X 07:45 AM

Example 2: In contrast to Example 1, this patient describes increased daily activity in combination with increased capability to perform various functional activities. As a result, this person is more typically describing what would be considered a K3. A validated instrument such as the PLUS-M® can further help establish the patient's functional level.



K-PAVET™

Activities of Daily Living Evaluation					
To accomplish Activities of Daily Living the patient requires the ability to:		Never, Rarely, 3-4 times a Month, 3-4 times a Week, Daily			
Walk with variable cadence*		Daily			
Walk a distance greater than 400 yards*		3-4 times/week			
Walk on uneven terrain (gravel, grass, curbs)		Daily			
Walk up and down stairs		3-4 times/week			
Walk up and down ramps		3-4 times/week			
Carry or lifting items		Daily			
Walk in public areas or crowds*		Daily			
Get in and out of a car		Daily			
Bending, kneeling or stooping		Daily			
Walk, stand or work in confined areas		Daily			
Functional Capabilities					
Patient can:		Not Possible, Potential, Exhibits Ability to Accomplish, Can Accomplish, Presently does daily basis			
Transfer without assistive devices		Can accomplish			
Ambulate on level surfaces at fixed cadence		Exhibits ability to accomplish			
Traverse low level environmental barriers		Exhibits ability to accomplish			
Ambulate with variable cadence*		Exhibits ability to accomplish			
Ambulate at faster than baseline rate*		Exhibits ability to accomplish			
Limb Strength					
Patient Limb/Joint Strength:		None, Trace, Minimal, Moderate, Normal			
Right side hip extension		Normal			
Left side hip extension		Normal			
Right side knee extension (AK on Right side... score None)		Normal			
Left side knee extension (AK on Left side... score None)		Normal			
Sound side ankle plantar/dorsiflexion (Bilateral AK or AK/BK patient...score None)		Normal			
ADL Score: 37	Functional Score: 11	Limb Strength Score: 20	K-PAVET score: 68		
Functional Level	K0	K1	K2	K2 or K3*	K3
LEGEND	<20	21-44	45-54	55-65*	66 and Over

Patient Name: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Visit Date: XX/XX/202X 02:00 PM