Tenets Of Life Care Planning

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Tenets

• Developing a philosophical approach. Understanding that Life Care Planners are Rehabilitation Professionals and Educators.

• Knowing and understanding the disability and related terminology, statistics and research.

Tenets

• Preventive Modeling recommendations are proactive not reactive.

• Life Care Planning is trans-disciplinary in nature and the plan will require drawing upon multiple specialties to obtain the necessary answers.
Tenets

• Follow a Standard Process for developing the necessary case management, medical, psychological and rehabilitation foundation for the plan.

• Carefully link recommendations to the patient and family clinical interview and history.

Tenets

• Link recommendations to the medical records.

• Wherever possible contact the Medical and Health Related Professional Treatment Team for LCP recommendations in their specialty areas.

Tenets

• Support recommendations with disability appropriate clinical practice guidelines.
• Support recommendations with appropriate research literature.
• Consider staffing/networking with a consulting medical specialist to help set foundation.
Tenets

• Assume probability of success of recommendations.

• LCP’s are designed to answer questions not raise them.

Tenets

• LCP goes to Life Expectancy and cannot depend on any one individual, service, or supplier for fulfilling plan recommendations.

• Recommendations must consider the disability, individual, family and regional factors.

Tenets

• Attend to details. A logical progression and professional image is a significant step toward credibility.

• Do not take credit for that which is not yours.
Tenets

- Recognize the benefits of maximizing patient potential.

Basic Methodology of Life Care Planning

- Team Approach

- Avoid programmatic overlaps and over use of hours/ie. Days/year; hours/day.

- Evaluate each page in relation to each other. Life Care Planning is Multi-Dimensional.

Methodology

- Evaluate equipment based on what is reasonable, not on what is available nor what is funded. Life Care Plans are “Needs Driven” not “Funding” Driven.

- Know and be familiar @ collateral sources.
Methodology

• Be geographically specific-range costs.

• Use multiple sources.

• Maintain your data base.

• Provide source list in file.

Methodology

• Itemize to show costs for supplies, medications, and equipment. Don’t just lump sum these areas.

• Use terminology correctly.

Methodology

• Check your math. Remember the therapy year (48 weeks per year); 4.3 weeks/month.

• Accuracy of math and being reasonable adds to credibility.