Disability Letters and Forms Policy

It is the goal of the physician and staff to accommodate as many requests as possible in an accurate and timely manner. Please review this information, sign below, and fill out the required information on the back.

1. Personal information must be completed on the back of this form. If you have a form from an attorney or from SSI to fill out, then look at the form I have included in the packet, as it is likely similar. You need to submit a blank copy as well as a copy where you filled in as much as you are able. If you haven’t been given a form, use the one I am supplying in the packet. Feel free to expound and give much more information then what you are asked for and you will have more success.

2. A $100 fee is required for Dr. Knight to start working on the forms and letter to support your disability claim or support your appeal of a denial.

3. Dr. Knight can not help patients apply for disability that have not seen her regularly for at least a year and preferably longer. I have to be able to show a course of care, support a diagnosis (usually more than one), predict your prognosis and just get to know you to make this determination.

4. If Dr. Knight doesn’t feel she can support your claim of disability, the $100 will be returned to you. It is important for you to realize that in order to qualify as disabled and receive SSI you must meet the following requirements:

   1) A major or chief complaint(s) that is considered disabling;
      a) Your illness must impair you physically and mentally. If you have a mental health problem now is the time to embrace it and not deny it. It only helps your case to have problems in more than one area. Cognitive impairment is also important but more difficult to prove. If you haven’t had a neuropsychiatric evaluation, then you may need one and they have a long wait to get in and they are usually 4 hours long.
   2) Also provide in claims for adults, a statement about what you can still do despite your impairment(s) and whether you have one or more impairment-related limitations or restrictions in the following abilities:
      a) The ability to perform physical demands of work activities, such as sitting, standing, walking, lifting, carrying, pushing, pulling, or other physical functions (including manipulative or postural functions, such as reaching, handling, stooping, or crouching); This I often have either our physical therapist or our chiropractor assess since they know many more physical tests to demonstrate your abilities and such. We also may need a special stress test.
      b) The ability to perform mental demands of work activities, such as understanding; remembering; maintaining concentration, persistence, or pace; carrying out instructions; or responding appropriately to supervision, co-workers, or work pressures in a work setting; This is also covered in a neuropsychiatric evaluation, but I can do a few of the tests they do to support your claim.
      c) The ability to perform other demands of work, such as seeing, hearing, or using other senses; Any impairment of vision, hearing or other senses needs to be documented by a specialist in that area.
      d) The ability to adapt to environmental conditions, such as temperature extremes or fumes; I am very adept at this area.
Deposit for working on supporting letter for disability: $100

I charge patients typically $50 per hour, however, if your case is VERY difficult, then I cap it at $400. I know that you are not working and money is limited, but this work takes significant time that I have to do outside of business hours. On average it takes me 12-20 hours to complete this work. If your attorney or insurance company requests documentation, we charge them $400 an hour so you’re getting a great deal.

I have reviewed the Disability Forms & Letters Policy and have filled out the requested information.

__________________________________________________________    ______________________  
Signature                    Date

Patient Name: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Date doctor’s supporting materials needed by: ________________________________

For letter(s), who it needs to be addressed to, including address, fax number and any reference number needed for your case: ________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Are you picking up your forms/letters?    Yes   /   No

If yes, phone number we can contact you upon completion: ______________________________

The forms and letter in this packet are examples of information I typically have to submit to an attorney or to SSI. I’ve included just a physical assessment form. Recently I did have a patient that I had to do an emotional health form due to a significant history of Bipolar Disorder. If you have a mental health issue, then I will send you that form as well if I forget to have them add it to this folder. The narrative letter is also important for establishing the “story” of how you became disabled. In order to do this, especially if I’ve not been your doctor for most of your adult life, I will need a history from you, otherwise I can only speak to the time since you came to me as a doctor and that’s typically inadequate. It’s up to you.

Sincerely, Dr. Rebecca Knight